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# SATURDAY NIGHT

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THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

—Photo by Baron. Miller Services Ltd.

**Next Monday, April 26, the King and Queen will celebrate their silver wedding. Canadians and all the peoples of the British Commonwealth will wish Their Majesties many more years of health and happiness.**

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THE FRONT PAGE

# Nailing Down the Coffin

NOW that detailed particulars of the capital levy item in the British budget have come to hand it is impossible to resist the conclusion that it is the most disastrous blow at the whole system of private enterprise that has yet been struck by any government not professing the doctrine that private enterprise is itself immoral.

It is well understood that the capital levy was imposed upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer by the trade unions, as the price of their acceptance of stabilization of wages—a policy which was absolutely indispensable if the inflationary spiral was to be arrested. But once the principle of a capital levy is accepted there is no longer any security for that ownership of capital without which private enterprise is impossible.

It is utterly useless to proclaim that the levy is a "once only" operation; having been performed once with success it will be performed again whenever a similar emergency, or even a less pressing one, arises. It is utterly useless to point out that it is limited to capital which brings its individual owner something in the vicinity of £5000 a year (it is levied on income, and it becomes a tax on capital only to the extent to which, when combined with the ordinary income tax and the irreducible expenditures of the individual himself, it exceeds the income and must therefore be paid out of capital); having been once applied to persons of this moderate wealth it can easily be applied next time to persons whose wealth is even more moderate. It is even useless to point out that, being applied upon income only, it has no effect on capital which produces no income, such as current deposits in a bank; for it is obviously illogical to seize part of the estate of the man with five talents who has put those talents to work and exempt the man with five talents who keeps them all wrapped up in a napkin, and next time this illogicality will doubtless be removed and the tax collector will shake out the contents of the napkin.

In any condition of free international movement of investment funds such an operation would be impossible; capital would flee the levying country in such quantities as to bring its economy to stagnation. With free international movement prohibited the evil consequences will be slower in making themselves felt; but felt they will unquestionably be. Men will not save when that which they save is going to be gradually taken from them. Men will not adventure that which they have saved, when the state is seizing more than the whole profits accruing from the adventure. If the supply of new adventure capital is not provided by individuals it will have to be provided by the state. That is the end of the private enterprise system. There is nothing left but socialism.

## No Provincial Issue

ONE of the reasons why the provinces of Canada do not get better government, and why the electors are often so little interested in their getting better government, is that their elections are so seldom fought on really provincial issues. They tend to be merely a method of fighting the national conflict upon national issues. The most flagrant case of this kind was of course the wartime election in Quebec, when Mr. Duplessis was defeated by the threat of the Dominion cabinet ministers from that province to resign if he won. But in Ontario it is a long time since there has been a contest about any major question in provincial administration; and even the Toronto *Telegram* cannot quite conceal its amusement at the idea that the present Ontario election has anything to do with its alleged cause—the project to switch the Central Ontario area from 25-cycle electric power to 60-cycle.

The electors of Ontario will cast their votes on June 8 with a view to their effect upon the

*(Continued on Page Five)*

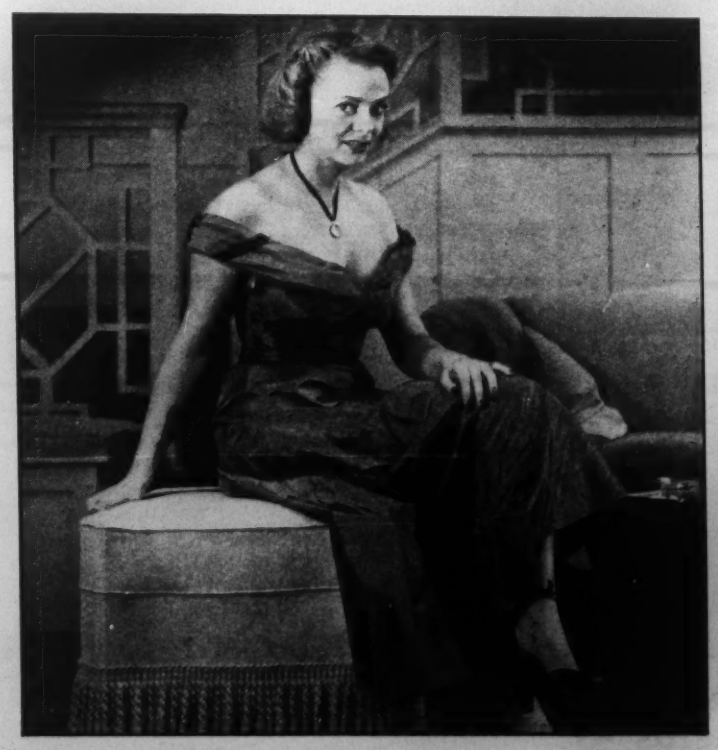
# New York Is Still Mecca of Canada's Theatregoers

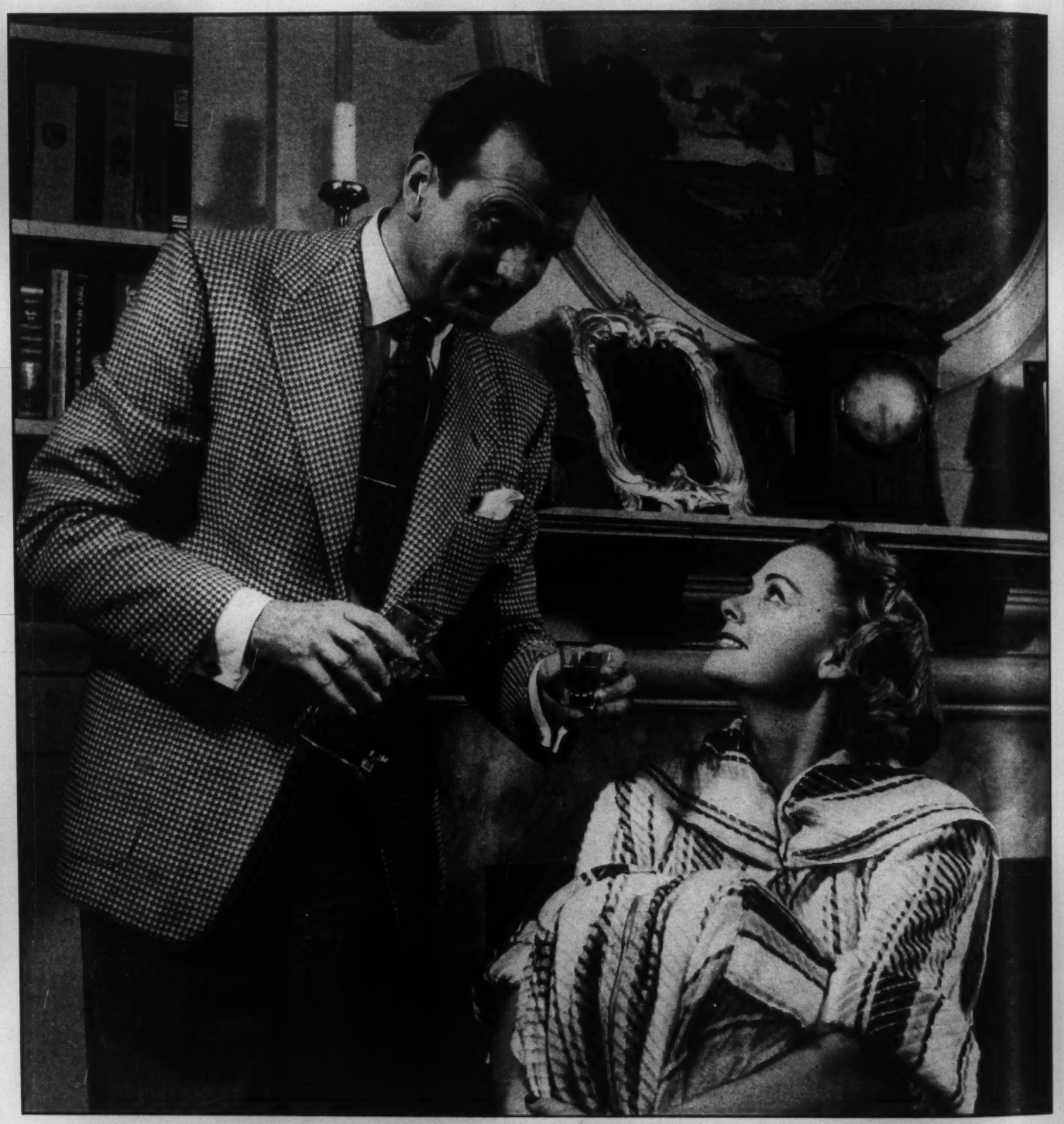
By Don Stairs

**1 As "Stanley" in "A Streetcar Named Desire", Marlon Brando, Broadway's latest sensation, loves his wife (left) but becomes infatuated . . .**

**2 . . . with her sister (Jessica Tandy, above), who gets what she wants but ends in mental crackup.**

**3 "For Love or Money" hinges on vivacious June Lockhart as "Janet" (below). To escape a . . .**





**4 . . . friend's unwelcome attentions, she runs in the rain to nearest house, thus, as might be expected, changing the course of her life. "Preston Mitchell" (John Loder) lends her a bathrobe after affirming his good intentions.**

**6 "High Button Shoes" (below) is a snappy musical burlesque of several old vaudeville gags and situations.**

NEITHER the temporary cut in U.S. passenger train traffic nor the reduction in the amount of U.S. currency available to Canadians for New York City frivolity seemed to have much effect on Canadian Manhattan-bound holiday crowds recently. Times Square hotels bulged with guests. Hit shows sold to S.R.O. Salad-hungry Canadians could goggle at store displays of mouth-watering salad greens, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, inch-thick asparagus, grapes, peaches, plums and especially the glistening red strawberries from the south.

Fleets of brand new taxis with their plastic-finished and shinily spotless interiors roamed the streets. The cheapest ocean trip in the world —Staten Island and return, 10 cents —still provides a pleasant interlude on a sunshiny day. By the way—take the Third Avenue elevated downtown to the Ferry for the El is doomed to disappear within a year. On the return trip get the taxi driver to go up the East River Drive for a view of the gigantic new housing developments and other wonders of the East Side.

As is customary at this time of year, Mr. and Mrs. hied themselves to New York as the springtime Mecca for their theatrical entertainment. For weeks in advance the New York critics' descriptions and appraisals of recently produced shows were delicately weighed pro and con. Your reporters kept in mind the thought that Canadians must now expend their Canadian funds very, very carefully. So this piece, with accompanying illustrations, is designed as an appraisal of the value of half a dozen current hits on the basis of: 1) music and melody; 2) humor and mirth; 3) emotional impact or dramatic content. SATURDAY NIGHT'S New York critic in other issues has or will give you carefully considered reviews. But what follows is the simple reaction of two Canadian visitors who paid their respects to Times Square shows in more of a frolicsome mood.

(*Continued on Page* 27)

**5 Vicki Cummings as "Nita" (left) has waited for years for Preston's invalid (and unfaithful) wife to die so that she may take her place. Janet, suddenly alert in spite of her inexperience, beats her to a fast finish.**

**8 In "The Winslow Boy", "Ronnie" (Michael Newell) tells "Violet" (Betty Sinclair) he has been discharged for stealing. His father (below centre) . . .**

**9 . . . sister and family friend fight the Admiralty decision. Based on fact, play will be here in June.**

**10 The "Police" Ballet, part of the riotous "Sunday by the Sea" routine in "High Button Shoes".**

**7 The "Sunday by the Sea" ballet is one of the most hilarious dances seen on Broadway in a long time.**

# Dear Mr. Editor

## Moot and Mooter

AN OBSERVER with the political savvy of Wilfrid Eggleston will not deny that the Senate for some decades has been unrepresentative, regardless of Liberal-Conservative balance (S.N., April 3). The Senate could be plugged to capacity with King Liberals and yet be half full of Tories in the most derogatory sense of the term—who could be relied upon to do their best to stultify any progressive legislation which might filter up. "Non-party appointees?" A mirage! "The Senate . . . . needs trained and experienced lawmakers?" Those qualifications are good but not necessarily paramount in a democracy trying to survive. Run-of-the-mill, common-sense, humanitarian instincts, possessed in a fair measure by farmer, labor and the consumer bodies, have some qualifications to recommend them.

*Moncton, N.B.* OWEN O'CLONTARF

## Ecstatic Tizzy

MISS ELSIE PARK GOWAN may be averse, as she claims, to placing labels on works of art, but her letter suggests the exact opposite (S.N., April 3). Her point of view is reminiscent of Vincent Massey's in the days when he publicly hailed Merrill Dennison as the "dean of Canadian playwrights." That was an era when the use of Canadian place names and random political references was guaranteed to send critics into an ecstatic tizzy. I thought this attitude had been consigned to just oblivion. Evidently it still has its supporters.

But what is a Canadian play? I venture the modest suggestion that, by definition, it is a play written by a Canadian. By this fair and reasonable test, John Coulter (S.N., April 17) qualifies with the same ease as does Miss Gowan. The most important thing about a play is its meaning.

No wonder that Canadian drama is in such a feeble state! If a play is set in Canada, the producers grab for it with willing hands; nothing else will do. I suppose that if Shakespeare were a Canadian, "Hamlet" would be turned down because that play has a Danish locale.

*Toronto, Ont.* NATHAN COHEN

## West in the Eyes?

MR. F. WHITE (S.N., April 3), in quoting Kathleen Strange's "With the West in Her Eyes," must have reminded himself of the classic lament of Job — "Oh, that . . . mine adversary had written a book!" But surely the instance quoted, when my dear friend and neighbor, Bob Sutfin, received $3 for his wheat while I received only $2 some weeks later, in 1920, must disprove the statement Mr. White has been trying to make, that he always made a profit buying wheat in the fall and selling it in the spring. In 1920 he would have lost, between September and May, 90⅛ cents a bushel.

Taking the ten years, 1920 to 1930, the figures reveal that had Mr. White bought wheat in the fall and sold it in the spring each year, he would have lost 4.4 cents per bushel on the average annually, without counting interest or carrying charges. With these expenses added, he would have lost in six years out of ten a total of 17.4 cents a bushel for every bushel traded in the ten years. Illustrating the truth of what Mr. Deachman and I myself have been propounding—that in the long run speculators always lose and so make a contribution to the farmer's welfare.

But Mr. White introduces a new proposition, which is that of fluctuations or vagaries of price. When he complains of this he is really complaining of the fluctuations or vagaries of life itself, for fluctuations in prices are caused by fluctuations in supply and demand, inevitably and always. To correct such fluctuations, human beings would have to have a constant power over natural phenomena, which they do not possess.

Farmers can always have security or an even price if they are willing to take a much lower price than otherwise they would enjoy. The point is, however, can they stand these great losses which, in the last 20 months on wheat alone have amounted to $450 million dollars, over $1800 for each farming family. This premium paid by farmers, I suggest, for this alleged "security", is exorbitant and not worth it.

*Winnipeg, Man.* H. G. L. STRANGE

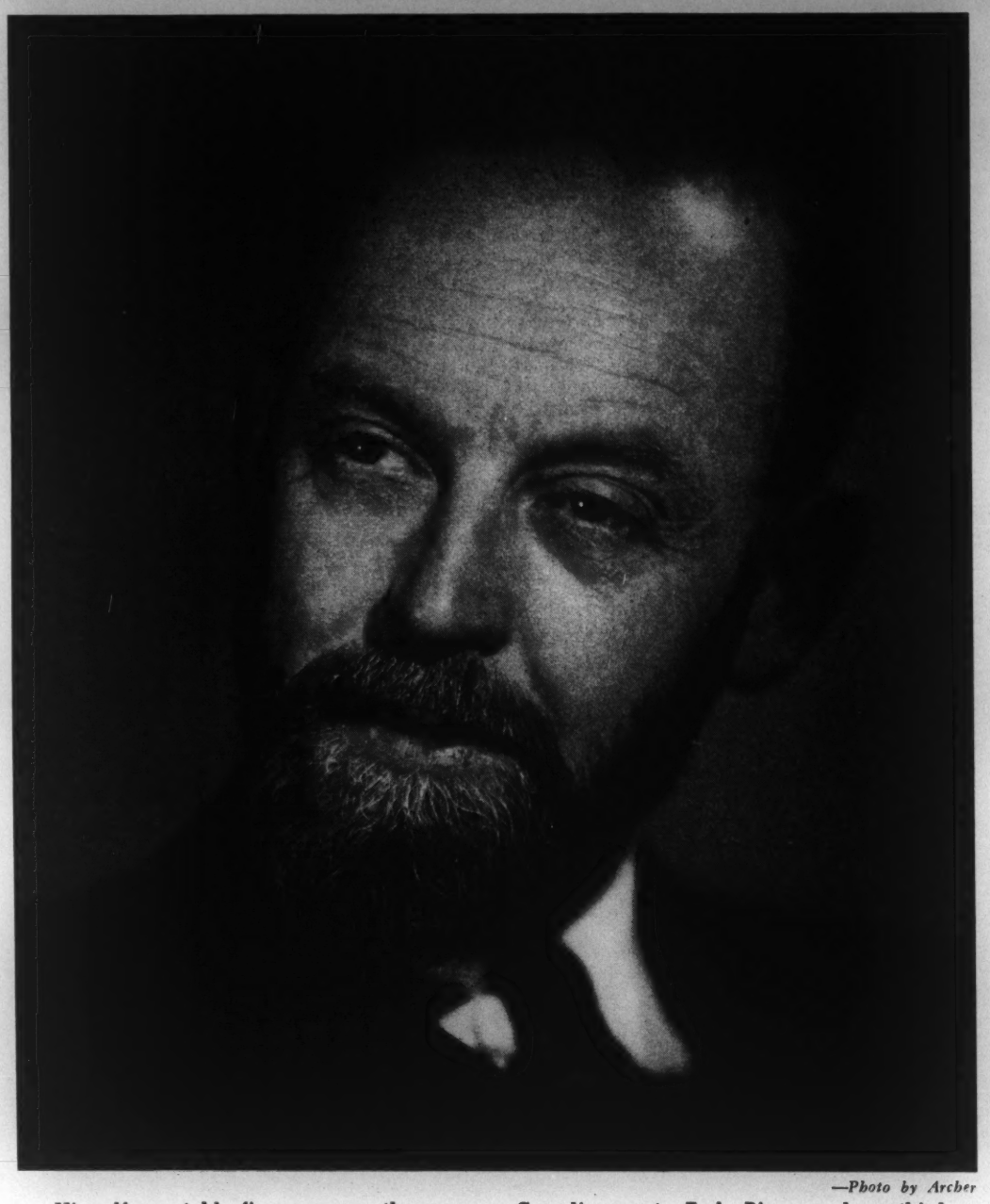
## THE LINE

("Reliable housekeeper requires position, respectful household."—Vancouver *Daily Province.*)

HOW best to show respect to thee, all-highest?
We'll put thee first, ourselves a dead-heat last.
We'll sing thee hymns and take up a collection
And do obeisance. Often we will fast.

We'll burn thee incense (or refrain from smoking).
If aught is stolen, we'll say we never saw it.
We'll lend thee cars and cash and new umbrellas.
We'll toe the line all right. But where to draw it?

DAVID BROCK



—*Photo by Archer*

**Himself a notable figure among the younger Canadian poets, Earle Birney, whose third volume, "The Strait of Anian", will be reviewed in an early issue, has also contributed largely to poetic progress in Canada by his editorship of the Canadian Poetry Magazine. His latest achievement is an "exchange" issue by which the C.P.M. gives space to six young poets of Britain while the British "Outposts" does the same for our Louis Dudek, Robert Finch, Abraham Klein, P. K. Page, E. J. Pratt, Dorothy Livesay.**

## Ideal Bomb

THE atom bomb we need is an ideal that will attract all those who are following the red banner of Russia. I would suggest this; Everywhere that a manager and his employees are being paid a salary, as opposed to those who are free to earn what they can, pay that manager and all the workers the percentage of profits that is equivalent to their present wages. If you have seen this work in practice, you will realize how it cuts the feet from below Communism. Everyone is working with an interest that gives them no time for strikes and stoppages. Everyone—managers and employers—is united by a common purpose — to increase profits and so increase his wages. Nothing can weaken their resolve or break their comradeship.

*Londonderry, N. Ireland.* HUGO MORRISON

## Coal Mining in U.K.

IN HIS comments on socialized mining in Britain (S.N., April 3), Mr. Richards states that the cost of mining coal has increased since nationalization, chiefly because of higher wages. Let us note that the cost of coal production has risen also in the U.S. where the mines are privately owned and more mechanized than has yet been possible in Britain. Coal miners are entitled to be well treated by Britain because they are doing heavy, dirty, unpopular work which supplies the power for British industry, and a valuable export much sought by Scandinavian countries able to supply the lumber Britain needs. Mr. Richards admits an important achievement by British miners, 9 million more tons of coal in 1947 than in 1946.

The fact that the price of coal was not raised soon enough to prevent the nationalized mines from incurring losses which had to be met out of general taxes is of no consequence. In a vital, basic industry, it matters little whether higher costs are paid out of higher prices or out of general taxation, although the latter course may give the public an erroneous impression of the state of the industry. The important thing for Britain is that production is steadily rising, costs are not rising unreasonably, and mechanization is being speeded up at a remarkable rate.

*Woodbrige, Ont.* DUDLEY A. BRISTOW

## Overpaid Income Tax

SOMEONE has pointed out that if the Department of Income Tax should pay the 4 per cent interest on overpayments, which is exacted on underpayments, many overpayments would be made in order to draw this high income. This may be so. But surely there can be no objection to the Department paying the same interest as a bank would pay, and that would protect the taxpayer against actual loss.

While we, the public, would be glad to have our income tax returns checked within a reasonable time, because that would help us with next year's returns, most of us could bear with patience the two or three years' delay if we did not have to pay compound interest at 4 per cent on a possible shortage.

*Sudbury, Ont.* F. N. MACLEOD

## Buttermilk Cure

REFERRING to your article on Arthritis and Rheumatism (S.N., April 3), a man living in Summerland, now well on in years but strong and healthy, told me that a number of years ago he was a cripple with rheumatism and had tried every possible cure without success. Finally, he went to Banff Hot Springs but received no benefit. Then an American doctor told him to give up eating every kind of ordinary food and live, for some time, entirely on buttermilk, drinking quarts of it. He followed this advice and has had no return of the trouble.

*Summerland, B.C.* WILLIAM H. F. WELSH

# Passing Show

A MEMBER of the House of Commons has explained that when he said "Tell that drunken bum to get out" he was not referring to any particular fellow-member. Fortunately he was not pointing his finger when he said it.

•

We can't quite figure out whether a vote against Mr. Drew is going to be a vote for 25-cycle power or for Communism, and maybe it's for both.

•

The C.C.F. refuses to associate with the Communists. Its leaders are not fellow-travellers; they are just fellows-travelled-with.

•

"Doubting Thomases, or is it Thomi?"—Ottawa *Journal.*
We doubt it.

•

The Japanese Canadians are now almost out of the woods in British Columbia, the government having decided to let them stay in them as lumber workers.

•

The Winnipeg Kiwanis Club has called on its members to engage in anti-Communist activities. One of the best we know of is not staying away from the polls when there is a Communist running.

•

Americans who are worried about the safety of the Panama Canal are now urging that another one be dug in Nicaragua. So they can have two to worry about?

•

The government evidently thinks that the petition of the Housewives Consumers' Association is to be taken as Red.

•

American gifts to Russia are said to be declining heavily. Russian gifts to America, in the shape of Communist agents, are keeping up well.

•

Complaint is made that secondary school textbooks in Ontario do not devote enough space to the effects of alcohol. They don't need to now that it is comparatively easy for the student to try them for himself.

•

Mr. Truman now has a balcony. All he needs is that the American people shall play Romeo to his Juliet.

•

The Italian people have made their choice between Encyclicals and Hammer-and-Sicklicals.

•

Two vanloads of high explosives have been removed from the Glasgow offices of the "Young Scotland" movement. Intended presumably to prevent some "Old Scots" from getting any older.

•

Lucy says she wishes the government would try to breed a tougher lettuce. After they have been served and rinsed four or five times the leaves get all washed away.

•

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# The Front Page

*(Continued from Page One)*

Dominion by-elections of the following day and the expected Dominion general election later in the year. The election date was chosen for that purpose. Mr. Drew will get the votes of all those who would like to see the Liberal Party out of power at Ottawa, for they will see in his victory a means to that end. He will also get those of some who might not vote for the Dominion Conservatives today because of lack of enthusiasm for their leadership, but who will figure that by enhancing Mr. Drew's prestige they are increasing the prospect that he may in time replace Mr. Bracken. In this respect, and from the point of view of his personal fortunes, Mr. Drew's addiction to "mixing it up" with the federal Liberals at every opportunity has probably been beneficial.

Mr. Oliver will not even get the full benefit of the association between his party and the federal Liberals. Five years ago his party was feuding with the federal Liberals and vieing with the Conservatives to see which could give them the more worry; and while that feud has been ended there is no kudos to be gained for a provincial party in Ontario through *supporting* a Dominion government. As for the C.C.F., it has for the moment everything against it. The province is prosperous, Socialism is in bad odor, the Communists have taken the party under their wing.

In those moments when it was attending to its proper business of administering Ontario, Mr. Drew's government has done a very good job, and we see no prospect whatever of its being replaced by a better one. We are, however, very reluctant to see the strength and abilities of the opposition parties in the legislature yet further diminished. The best critical work of the past few sessions has been done by the two Communists, whom we do not expect to see in the new legislature and whose departure we shall not regret because we think their abilities have been directed to wholly wrong ends. But the prospect of an Ontario legislature even more overwhelmingly Conservative than the present one, and elected not for its provincial policies but for the effect of its election upon the Dominion situation, does not fill us with enthusiasm.

## For Advertisers Only

AMONGST the general confusion on our desk the other day we came across some remarkable instances of the pains some of our companies are taking to tell their stories to the public. There was the annual report of National Breweries, full of sepia tones, pastel shades and Ye Olde Looke; there was the great black brochure recording in picture, diagram and map, the forty years of the F. P. Weaver Coal Co. Ltd., and there was the magnificent gold-embossed, full-color publication announcing the fiftieth anniversary of the Shawinigan Water and Power Company. In each case, the advertising agency had obviously been told to "shoot the works" and had proceeded to do so with originality and taste.

We could not help thinking, however, that this sort of thing never comes when it is most needed, that is, in depression times when advertisers and artists and printers find time heavy on their hands, and their purses light in their pockets. We hope that some companies, with anniversaries a few years hence, will start setting aside a little every year so that when the time comes they will be able to lay out an equally magnificent spread. The advertising agencies might well encourage them to do so—just as some undertakers get people to make down-payments on the coffins they intend to use a little later.

## Communists and Rights

THIS journal believes that it would be a good thing if Canada had a Bill of Rights as part of its written constitution, declaring that there are certain things which no government, whether national or provincial, can do in violation of the rights of the individual citizen. We are not anxious to see it adopted, however, before Canadian public opinion is ready for it. We are therefore more concerned for the education of public opinion than for hasty legislation. In any event, Canada has not yet provided itself with any machinery for amending its constitution in directions which would restrict the powers of any of its governments without their own consent; and the unanimous consent of nine provinces is rather too much to expect.

COMING IN?

A nation-wide Committee for a Bill of Rights has been carrying on educational and propaganda work on this subject for more than a year. It consists of prominent and responsible citizens in all parts of the Dominion and belonging to all the non-revolutionary political parties.

Last week there appeared in a Toronto newspaper a half-page advertisement of a new body calling itself the "Civil Rights Union of Toronto". It protested against various invasions or alleged invasions of civil liberty, some of which have been the subject of protest in this journal and many other responsible publications; others of them have not yet taken place and are (like the LaCroix Bill at Ottawa) not very likely to take place, though they have been proposed. Some of the actual invasions are already illegal, among them the student "riot" at Windsor, and would not be rendered more so by any Bill of Rights; what they call for is more determined enforcement of existing rights by the authorities concerned.

But included in the list is one "invasion" about which a very large proportion of the Canadian people are most unlikely to protest—the imposition of a loyalty test on civil servants. If this is an invasion of liberty, it follows that the various governments of this country have no right to inquire into the loyalty of any of their employees. This is a proposition which we believe goes far beyond the views of most of the members and supporters of the original Committee for a Bill of Rights, and leads us to suspect that the new Union is likely to consist largely of members and friends of the Communist party, who are dissatisfied with the efforts of the Committee because that body is not concerned about defending the right to advocate the changing of the Canadian system of government by force.

We regret the establishment of this new Union, because we anticipate that its advocacy is going to discredit rather than to strengthen the cause of the proposed Bill of Rights, and because we have no faith whatever in the honesty of any professed interest in civil rights by persons who believe in Marxism, the dictatorship of the proletariat, the one-party system of government, and the Leninist principle of the revolutionary vanguard. We do not propose, however, to abandon our own advocacy of reasonable safeguards for liberty merely because Communists are advocating them temporarily and for their own purposes.

## What's Wrong at O.A.C.?

THE Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph should be one of the leading colleges of its sort on this continent, indeed in the world, for it is located in and supported by a stable, wealthy, and well-educated community. Unfortunately it has not measured up to its opportunities or its responsibilities.

This is no new thing; the present Ontario government cannot be held responsible any more than its predecessors. But the fact remains that O.A.C., instead of taking its place in the forefront of agricultural research and educational methods, has jogged along at a horse-and-buggy pace. Complete reform is needed, including a new attitude towards teaching and a new attitude towards research, a new relationship to the community and, perhaps above all, a new relationship to the provincial government.

We are happy to print in this issue the first of two articles on this subject by Mr. J. K. Galbraith, a graduate of O.A.C. and a scholar of wide renown in agricultural economics. He is at present one of the editors of *Fortune* magazine in New York. His articles, which are factual as well as critical, will appeal to all who have at heart the true interests of Canadian agriculture and Canadian education.

## Wings Over Bermuda

THE *Royal Gazette* of Bermuda has an interesting editorial in connection with the new air passenger service which the Trans-Canada Airlines are opening up this week to that holiday island from Montreal and Toronto. The T.C.A. planes, which take less than five hours flying time, will carry a lot of Canadians there who, in days when U.S. dollars were ample, got their sunburn in Florida and California.

The *Royal Gazette* welcomes the new visitors partly because they will contribute to "our one and only real business—tourism." But it goes further. Without referring to the two great American naval and air bases on the island it voices the misgivings of many people down there about the spreading shadow of the American eagle's wings: "While we believe it would be fatuous to cast Canada in Britain's role vis-a-vis Bermuda and the other colonies to the south of us, it is nevertheless enheartening to have so powerful a Commonwealth neighbor as Canada engaged in the counsels of both hemispheres."

## Resisting Oppression

THE delegates to the World Conference on Freedom of Information must be having a lot of fun with the draft Covenant on Freedom of Information which was drawn up by the subcommission at Lake Success a few months ago and which has since received a good deal of acrimonious comment from newspapers and periodicals in the "liberal" countries. Among other things this Covenant would authorize national governments signing it to limit freedom of expression in regard to "expressions which incite persons to alter by violence a system of government, *except in cases of resistance to oppression*".

All national authorities naturally exercise the right to prohibit incitement "to alter by violence a system of government", and we cannot imagine any such authority entering into an agreement which would in any way lessen or qualify that right. What is amusing about the proposal is the rider, "except in cases of resistance to oppression". Where is the government which will admit that it is oppressive, and therefore that its subjects have a right to incite to violence against it? Where, on the other hand, is the subversive movement which does not claim to be "resistance to oppression"? The Communists have no hesitation about inciting to violence against a democratic government when they think they can succeed, and they justify their action by the claim that they are resisting the oppression of the capitalists. The Ku Klux Klan in the Southern States claims to be resisting the oppression of the national government and the Northerners. In Palestine everybody is resisting the oppression of somebody else. The world is full of movements for the advocacy of violence, and we do not know a single one of them which does not claim to be directed against some kind of oppression.

Of course, when we have a world court which can determine what is oppression and what isn't, the case will be different. But that involves a world authority which will compel oppressive governments to stop being oppressive—which seems like a large order. And even then, some of the oppressive governments would unquestionable regard the world authority as itself oppressive.

## A Leg-Pulling Book

THERE is, we think, no autobiography of anybody in the whole range of Canadian literature in the least like "The Autobiography of a Nobody" (Dent, $2.75) by N. B. James. Mr. James, whose portrait reveals him a shrewd-faced, twinkling-eyed, humorous and kindly person who would have made a good manager of a moderately large branch bank, is actually one of the Social Credit members for Edmonton in the Alberta legislature, and must have had some trouble keeping out of the cabinet. Born in England with a full share of the Englishman's distaste for being patronized, he came to Canada at the age of eighteen or thereabouts and became a cowpuncher in Alberta, and would have been a remittance man but for an entire lack of remittances. After the first war he took up land in what became a dust-bowl, and after the dust he took up Social Credit.

Leg-pulling is of course a major occupation of cowpunchers, and Mr. James has lost none of his quality at that noble Albertan sport; this must be the most leg-pulling autobiography ever written. Mr. James almost refuses to take even Social Credit seriously, and takes nothing else seriously at all. Underneath his leg-pulling, however, is a lot of deep human feeling about the unsung heroes of the drought areas in which he spent some six or seven years, and the one earnest observation "that the memory of those neighbors of the 'dry area' is one of the sweetest and most treasured in my life." Having done a little visiting in that area in those years we know what Mr. James means, and we endorse it.

The nearest clergyman was fifty miles away, and Mr. James's public career really began when he was called upon to conduct funerals. At this he was so successful that he became the regular preacher (without stipend) of what was eventually a large congregation, about which he notes: "Maybe it was the singing, of which I always took care to have plenty. If these services did nothing else, they brought us together with a better understanding of each other as a result". Then came the Depression, and then Aberhart, and then it was natural that Mr. James should be a candidate, and inevitable that he should be elected. Nobody—or at any rate nobody who understands the art of leg-pulling—can read these chapters without acquiring a much better idea of Aberhartism and how it arose than he would get from any economico-political thesis.

Occasionally Mr. James pulls his own leg, and we cannot be sure whether it is intentional or not. He thinks that the war of 1939 was started by the financiers to get industry going again, or at least he says so. We think he is too intelligent for that.

## THE SURVIVOR AND THE PSALMIST

THE Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want
(So harped their David in his happier day);
Yet I in direst want have crept and crouched
Where no still waters lay.

Through tangled paths where gun-pits lurked
Thy rod came not to comfort me,
And in the valley of the shadow of death
Grim-lipped I faced the fox-hole's snarl of lead
And saw green pastures turned to fields of red.

When hawk-like swooped the bomber's wings
The dews of hate anointed my bent head
And life was not what David dreamed;
When sudden steel struck deep in startled flesh
And a blood-drenched comrade screamed
My cup that overflowed was not of joy;
And when the midnight bullet found its mark
And left me standing by the greying dead,
It sounded empty, all their Psalmist said.

And at the table Thou hast laid for me,
Amid these ghosts in mortal dress,
I gnaw the broken crusts of memory
And merely ask forgetfulness.

ARTHUR STRINGER

# Horse-and-Buggy Teaching at O.A.C. Instead of Scientific Research

By J. K. GALBRAITH

**Mr. J. K. Galbraith was born and reared on a farm in Elgin County, Ontario. He went to the Ontario Agricultural College and then continued his education at the universities of California and Cambridge. He taught economics and agricultural economics at California, Harvard and Princeton. During the war he was Deputy Price Administrator and later Director of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey. For his war work he was awarded the Medal of Freedom and the President's Certificate of Merit. He is now an Editor of Fortune magazine in New York.**

**In view of his background he speaks with great weight on matters of agriculture, economics and politics. In this article he explains how agricultural education should be tied up with agricultural research. He then gives evidence that at O.A.C. there is "almost no project that could be classified as fundamental research". More than twice as much is spent on bee-keeping as on agricultural economics.**

**A second article by Mr. Galbraith will appear in an early issue. He will discuss agricultural education and politics.**

TWO or three months ago, in a magazine of which I am editor, I had occasion to refer to the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph as "inbred and inert" and I questioned the quality of the leadership that it provided to the agriculture of my native Province and to the Dominion. (*Fortune* magazine, January, 1948) These were hard statements especially to apply to one's *alma mater*, a lady whose virtue one does not carelessly impugn. However, I did not make them casually and I am grateful for the invitation from SATURDAY NIGHT to enlarge on my criticism.

This is a matter of first-rate importance. It is quite possible that in an agricultural area the most important public institution, after the school system, is the agricultural college. Modern agriculture, like modern industry, is not static and it is a good deal more competitive. In this race the prize of prosperity goes to those who, in the quality of their management and technology, are ahead of the game. The prize of survival goes to those who are abreast of it.

Unlike the manufacturer or even the merchant, the farmer primarily because of the small scale of his enterprise can do little research on his own behalf. He must depend on his government, and in particular on his college of agriculture, for the work he cannot do himself. The crops he grows today, the yields he obtains, the plant and livestock diseases he is able to control, the farm management practices he employs, the market he exploits and the profits he makes depend, very substantially, on what the college of agriculture did yesterday.

Viewed in this light the college of agriculture is not only a vital institution but it is also, primarily, a research establishment. In Canada and the United States it has long been customary to think of the agricultural college as having three functions—research, teaching and extension. There should never be any doubt that the second pair of functions, however important, are subordinate to, and dependent on, the first. Good research work is the mainspring of the change and development which it is the prime task of the college to initiate. It is also what brings together and maintains the community of scientists which, in the last analysis, is what a college is.

## A Nice Question

The opportunity to teach will never attract first-rate scientific talent. Neither will the opportunity to travel up and down the concessions carrying new methods to the farmers. In the matter of teaching it is a nice question whether there is any such thing as a first-rate college or university teacher who is incapable of doing original work in his field.

I have encountered quite a number of men who claimed to be teachers and *only* teachers. Some of them could spout to freshman or sophomore classes with marked virtuosity. I suspect, however, that most of the really great teachers have always been men who have been engaged in adding something to their subject. Good college teaching, in other words, is the companion piece and, in some measure, the by-product of research.

That the college of agriculture is primarily a centre for the development of the natural and social sciences both in themselves and in their relation to agriculture (the two are inseparable) would, I believe, be accepted by most progressive agriculturists. It is a concept that has evolved only gradually.

In the beginning the college was a model farm where a few especially able or skilled husbandmen were assembled to demonstrate and expound their methods. Over the years it became transformed into an "experimental farm" where the permutations and combinations of plant foods and livestock rations were tried out, where varieties of crops were developed and tested and new plant and animal diseases treated in accordance with the day's hunch as to what might work. Farms were "surveyed" to ascertain what combination of land, labor and cropping practice "seemed" to give the lowest costs of production.

## At First, Empiricism

The work of the experimental farm was largely empirical. It was also expensive and inefficient. For nearly a generation the "practical" men who once dominated its work have been giving way to the scientists. Bringing to their task a command of ultimate relationships, the latter have been able to get far more significant and stable results far more economically than was ever possible through blind or intuitive experiment — that is, through empiricism. The "practical" men did not give up easily. In some institutions where they have been well-entrenched they have not given up at all. Nevertheless the measure of the service a college of agriculture renders its community is the extent to which science has replaced empiricism.

The problem at Guelph, in its essentials, is one of a serious lag in this development. This is well indicated by the character of the research work that is being done. The last report of the Minister of Agriculture at hand (for the fiscal year ending in 1946) lists almost literally no project that could properly be classed as fundamental scientific research.

It does list some that involve application of scientific method to practical problems—notably in the field of animal and poultry nutrition. But the great majority of the projects either fall under the heading of service — "More than 6,000 cultures for legume seed inoculation were made and distributed to seedsmen . . ."—or they suggest old-fashioned experiment or testing. "Experiments conducted during the past two years have proved that Stephen's Weed Killer and Altacide can be used effectively to destroy . . . Field Bindweed, Leafy Spurge . . . Application of DDT gave control for two weeks in unscreened buildings . . . Feeding trials with nursing pigs have shown that pigs showed a preference for rolled products . . . "

Such work, though it has a spurious appearance of utility, comes perilously close to what a farmer could do for himself or what could be done for him by the routine staff of a testing laboratory. It is not the job of an agricultural college to try out commercial weed or insect killers. From the work of its biologists, physiologists and biological chemists should come the weed and insect controls themselves — ever-improved antidotes for the old plagues and new ones as nature devises new enemies for the farmer.

## Research Neglected

As disturbing as this evidence of superficial boondoggling, is the complete omission of vital areas of research. No mention, for example, is made of work in agricultural economics. The budget of this department, which is recognized by agricultural economists to have able leadership, was less than $15,000 in 1946. More than twice that much was spent on apiculture (beekeeping) in the same year.

At the risk of reflecting some bias—since I am an economist myself—I would argue that agricultural economics is central to the research program of an agricultural college. Yet it must be concluded that in the important and developing fields of farm management, agricultural prices and marketing or in such new areas as efficiency engineering on the farm, no work whatever is being done by the Ontario Agricultural College for Ontario farmers.

It will be argued that most Ontario farmers are well satisfied with things as they are and that this emphasis on the college as a center of scientific research in relation to agriculture is impractical and over-drawn. It is quite true that farmers can often be persuaded that a college of agriculture is doing useful work if they see it doing a little better than what they do at home. And it has been quite customary for college administrators to truckle to this attitude. It is also possible by an imaginative use of scientific terms to persuade farmers and others that a very great deal of very shallow experiment is really austere and important scientific work.

But farmers are also notably appreciative of results and it is the real business of the college to assume leadership in the scientific method that is the assured path to progress. Most patients were satisfied with their physicians when the latter used bleeding as an all-round therapy and were suspicious, at first, of those who abandoned the old familiar treatment. Afterward they may have been grateful for being alive. The relation of the agricultural scientist to his clientele is like that of the physician.

(A second article on this subject by Mr. Galbraith will appear in an early issue.)

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OTTAWA LETTER

# The Sharp Debate on Civil Liberties Discloses a Non-Party Division

By WILFRID EGGLESTON

*Ottawa.*

THE debate in the Commons on human rights amply repays the time and trouble required to read and analyze it. It began on April 9, was resumed on April 12 and concluded on April 16, when the House adopted a motion by the Minister of Justice to set up a joint committee, and an amendment sponsored by Stanley Knowles recommending a reference to the Supreme Court to establish the constitutional position as between Ottawa and the provinces. Sixteen speakers took part in the debate. The most notable contributions, I thought, were made by John Diefenbaker, Conservative member for Lake Centre, David Croll, Liberal member for Spadina, and M. J. Coldwell, C.C.F. leader; with slighter but still constructive comments from Mrs. Strum, J. M. Macdonnell, and E. B. McKay, the C.C.F. member for Weyburn. The debate was punctuated by several sensational passages contributed mainly by E. G. Hansell, Social Credit member for Macleod, Jean François Pouliot, Norman Jaques and T. L. Church; and the prominence given these sidelights and irrelevancies in the press tended, I thought, to obscure the solid merit of the discussion.

There was not much humor in the debate, if one excepts the unconscious humor of Norman Jaques. The member for Wetaskiwin, a devoted follower of the "international ideal or ism" known as Douglas Social Credit, spent considerable time denouncing vigorously all those who are devoted followers of such an "international ideal or ism" as the United Nations. Moreover, Mr. Jaques again gave a display of the same sort of idiosyncrasy as makes Mr. Dick such a delightful character in "David Coppperfield." You will recall that Mr. Dick found it quite impossible to get on with his Memorial to the Lord Chancellor because no matter how hard he tried to keep it out, King Charles' head kept creeping into it. One would have supposed that Mr. Jaques could have taken part in a debate on human rights without indulging in the popular Social Credit hobby of discovering the dark intrigues of the ominous figures known as "international finance" in all conceivable manner of activity; or without finding it necessary to make some sort of attack upon Jews. Actually, both of them got into his speech.

With the introduction: "I have made a few notes on the social credit analysis of the hidden motives behind this drive for internationalism" he unfolded a few of the dark secrets. And warming to his work, he showed the Commons how the Jews are plotting world domination: "These internationalists work to a plan. Let me name some of them. Mond sets up a chemical cartel linked with Germany and America. Samuel recommends state ownership of coal. Isaacs (Lord Reading) negotiates a war debt settlement with Wall Street, binding the British to undisclosed terms. Sieff sets up political and economic planning, using the war as an excuse to overcome opposition. Cassel finances the London School of Economics to train the bureaucracy for the future world socialist state. Laski preaches class—that is civil—war."

## Knaves or Fools

This is old stuff, perhaps, but Mr. Jaques' Social Credit colleague, Mr. Hansell, introduced the more startling assertion that all those who press for a Bill of Rights are knaves or fools: "To my mind there are only two classes of people who are crying for a bill of rights in Canada, and having it written into our constitution under the sinister pressure of Communist friends. Those two classes are traitors and dupes," he said.

This is a bit hard on people like Messrs. Diefenbaker, Croll, Coldwell and the two hundred or more Canadian citizens whose names were read into Hansard by Jean François Pouliot. And the implications of Mr. Hansell's whole argument are really alarming. If all the Communists have to do to destroy any genuine reform movement in Canada is to join it in a conspicuous way, they have already discovered a technique which will of itself soon go far toward making this country into a highly reactionary one, a country in which the atmosphere would foster rebellion against toryism and deadlock. If all expressions of the popular will, looking toward progress and a better state of equity and higher humanity of life, can be rapidly smeared and vitiated—killed off at the source—subject to denunciation and even repression, on the sole ground that the masses of the public have been joined in the reform by a few well-known Communists, then normal democratic evolution by protest, discontent and agitation will be replaced by stagnation, paralysis, despair and eventually outbreak, a state of affairs entirely after the Communists' own heart.

## Ignored Party Lines

It is unfair, perhaps, to the general tenor of the debate to use so much space on these aberrations, though they are much too serious to ignore.

The debate disclosed a sharp division of view, which ignored party lines, over the state of civil liberties in Canada. It was odd to hear Mr. Ilsley quoting Mr. Hansell with approval. Mr. Hansell said we had always had these freedoms: "do they not still exist?" The Minister of Justice said, with perhaps a shade of complacency, that "we have not any cause for embarrassment in the United Nations . . . . take almost any country in the world you like, and you will have a country where there is far greater and far more infraction of personal liberties, human rights and fundamental freedoms than in this Dominion of Canada." He thought Canadians were growing more tolerant.

Partly he was answering David Croll, a fellow-Liberal, who had not been so smug. One suspects that Mr. Croll is a stronger witness on these things: "There are amongst us," said the member for Toronto Spadina, "many minorities, racial, religious, economic and political minorities, who are profoundly upset at the present state of freedom in Canada. They see a growing spirit of intolerance manifesting itself in not just isolated cases here and there, but in mass action against whole groups; and they know full well that if discrimination can be practised against one group with impunity, it can be directed against any group."

## Constructive Address

Barring one or two lapses into party politics, the address by John Diefenbaker was one of the loftiest and most constructive addresses made on the subject in recent years by anyone. It was a liberal speech, such as one would have more expected to hear from the right of the Speaker; and it was a credit to His Majesty's Loyal Opposition, illustrating how vital it is, in our parliamentary democracy, to have an alert and eloquent body of critics sitting in the House with the government.

Like so many other lively national issues, the proposed declaration and covenant on human rights ran smack into our old friend, the problem of Dominion-Provincial Relations. The British North America Act says nothing about jurisdiction over human rights as such. Our written constitution lacks any formal reference to guarantees of personal and individual rights, though its preamble does make reference to a constitution "similar in principle to that of the United Kingdom." But the B.N.A. Act does give to the provinces exclusive jurisdiction over a matter described as "property and civil rights" and the courts have said that "civil rights" is a very comprehensive phrase. Indeed the present government concedes—almost too readily, I feel—that the provinces have very substantial rights of legislation in this field. But the Supreme Court ruling in the Alberta press licence case in 1938 makes it abundantly clear that the Dominion government also has very large and responsible duties and powers in the freedom of the press and related fields.

In that decision the court made, among others, the following declaration: "No province has the power to reduce in that province the political rights of its citizens as compared with those enjoyed by the citizens of other provinces of Canada." Mr. Ilsley is timid about provoking a provincial rights issue, but Ottawa unquestionably has inescapable responsibilities in the field of human rights.

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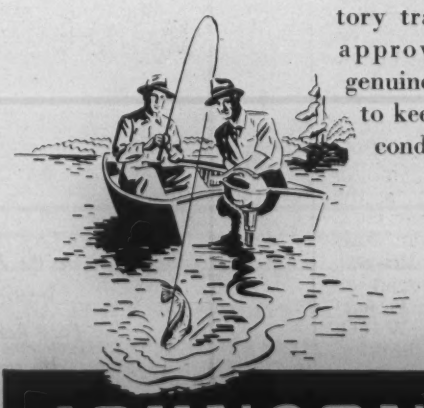

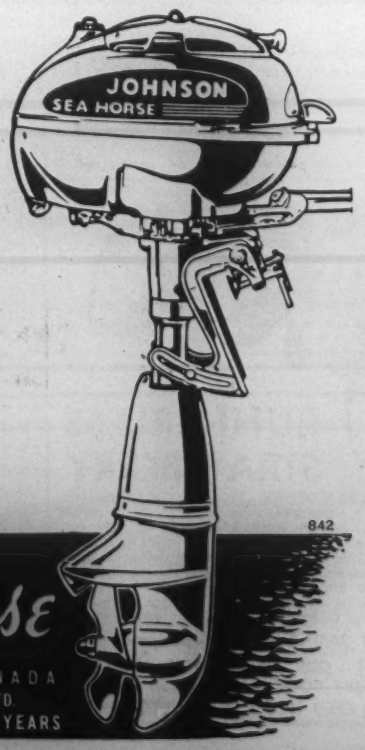


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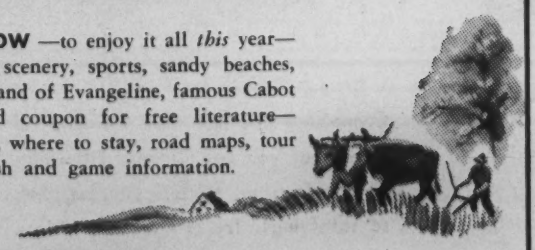

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WASHINGTON LETTER

# U.S. Failure to Join Health Group Gives Russia Excuse to Accuse

By JAY MILLER

*Washington.*

TOTAL war calls for total medicine. That was how the realistic headline writers phrased it. Scholarly Colonel Edgar Erskine Hume, U.S. Army president of the Association of Military Surgeons of the U.S., said it differently:

"We must mobilize our entire resources of preventative medicine and hygiene. All too often, our warfare against disease is defensive only . . . The medical side of our war planning must not be overlooked."

Parenthetically, Dr. Hume remarked that war is the most terrible of all diseases; nevertheless, medicine had recorded its advances mainly through the stimulus of past wars.

As an introduction to the subject of what the United States, despite her fabulous contributions to medical science, is doing to prevent medical advances, both at home and abroad, Colonel Hume's comment is thought-provoking; especially his hopeful observation that "perhaps the day will come when we will know what manner of madness causes man to wage war to destroy his fellow man."

Studies have been started to try to find out why man is determined to slaughter his fellow beings and to cure that condition. Of that subject, more later in this article.

Our exploration into the American approach to the medical problem is directed 1) at the failure of the U.S. to join the World Health Organization, and 2) the stultifying, running controversy over "socialized" medicine. The World Health Organization, or W.H.O. as those pithy headline hunters have dubbed it, apparently has been blessed with excellent leadership. Its director is Dr. G. Brock Chisholm, who had a noteworthy record as wartime director general of the Canadian Army Medical Service. Its executive secretary is Dr. Frank Calderone, an able administrator.

Nevertheless, American membership in the W.H.O. has been blocked by five members of Congress who have taken advantage of their strategic position on the House Rules Committee to forbid consideration by the entire House. No specific reason is given, although there has been talk of fear that "this country may have to foot the world's medical bills." This is absurd as the 39.86 per cent U.S. share of the budget amounts to only $1,920,000 for the first year.

W.H.O. came into existence this month as a new activity of the United Nations when its charter was ratified by one more than 26 nations needed to bring it officially into existence. Last signers were Mexico, the Ukraine and Byelo-Russia. But because of those five Congressmen, the U.S. is not yet a signatory.

The purpose of W.H.O. is to wage war on common enemies of all mankind. Member nations agree to cooperate to end disease, pestilence and epidemic. They will endeavor to wipe out such diseases as malaria and tuberculosis and slated for early action is a world-wide campaign against venereal disease.

Congress has already expressed itself in favor of the legislation. Medical leaders on both sides of the state medicine issue have declared themselves for it.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee studied the bill and almost unanimously urged its adoption. Last year the Senate gave its unanimous support to American participation in W.H.O.

## Harmful to U.S. Prestige

The United States took a leading part in setting up the present world health organization, although not a part of it. And pathetically, American failure to take part in the international battle against disease, can be extremely harmful to American prestige. It has given the Russians another chance to accuse this country of obstructing something designed for the good of people everywhere. It is to be hoped that the 12-man Rules Committee which voted last month 5 to 2 to table the world health bill will reconsider its decision, or that the House of Representatives will override its rules committee and pass the bill.

W.H.O. already has mapped out a program that offers great hope for future generations. The global attack on venereal disease is but one project. Researchers believe that penicillin treatment of newborn babies may virtually eradicate venereal disease.

As to Colonel Hume's hope that mankind can cure his own insanity that prompts him to make war, the W.H.O. has prepared for a world conference aimed at alleviating human fears and phobias. It is believed that better psychiatric knowledge may be the clue to fewer fear-obsessions among nations. Sick minds as well as sick bodies are a menace to peace. Long-range study aimed at the causes of human aggression and hostility may be the means of bringing about their cure.

Dr. Chisholm, with whom this writer was associated during the war years, is noted as a psychiatrist as well as a physician, and he is particularly interested in how W.H.O. might help to cure diseased thinking and thus eliminate a cause of war. Much of the new U.N. agency's work will have to be deferred if the United States does not become a funds-contributing member. The cost is certainly an excellent investment in prevention if it can save some of the billions and trillions that go down the drain in fighting pestilences or financing a war, once those diseases have taken hold.

In the U.S. medical world a wide schism exists on the subject of socialized or state medicine. Such elder statesmen as Bernard Baruch have tried to bring the opposing viewpoints together.

"The public," he warns, "is demanding better and more medical service, through some action, political or otherwise."

There have been numerous predictions that the presidential election campaign would bring to a head a bitter political battle over what to do about the nation's health. These viewpoints are represented in opposing health measures, the Taft Health Bill, which is aimed at providing medical care only for indigents, or the Murray-Wagner-Dingell Bill (anathema to organized medicine) which would tax the earnings of every worker to finance a nation-wide health insurance program.

## Election Appeal

Campaign strategies appeared to have delayed this head-on conflict over a national health program as exemplified in these measures. It was predicted that Senator Taft would try to get his bill through before the November elections.

President Truman has not overlooked the appeal of a national health program, particularly in a presidential election year, and he has ordered a conference to map out a 10-year over-all health plan for the nation. It may be that the health legislation supporters are taking to heart the advice of one observer, that "both bills require careful study and research before action is taken. If a national health program is deemed necessary, it should be flexible and adaptable to changing health problems."

The doctor shortage was highlighted in a minor controversy this week in nearby Maryland. Speaking for himself, Dr. Charles S. Maxson, president of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, explained why it is harder to get a doctor now when he is wanted. He blamed patients for abusing doctors by calling them at all hours over the slightest aches and pains. He said doctors liked the 40-hour week too. And he charged that medical schools were turning out too many specialists and not enough general practitioners. As a result, Dr. Maxson said, doctors are themselves building up the best arguments for State medicine, which most of them opposed.

The physician for Alleghany County, Dr. Richard J. Williams, immediately challenged Dr. Maxson and blamed the entire profession for faulty leadership.

"No man," he declared, "is fit to specialize in anything unless he has had at least 10 years of general practice. Unless you men at the top very speedily mend your ways and stop trying to shift the responsibility on to the shoulders of the few of us who are doing general medicine, then the public will rise up and give us state medicine, whether we like it or not."

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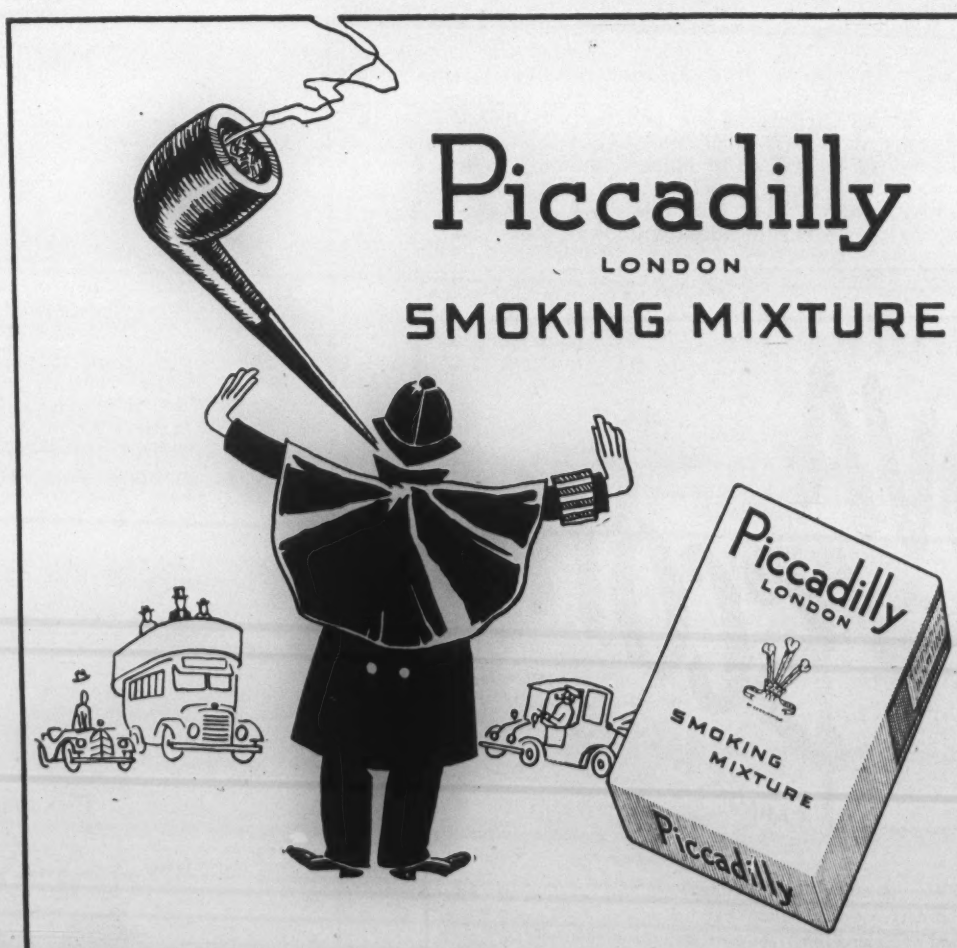


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# Food and Free Speech Costly in Budapest

By ANTONY TERRY

**Hungarians no longer have the Gestapo breathing down their necks. Instead they have the Economic Police, who are polite yet capable of fast action against anyone voicing dissent against the Communist-dominated government. Food is largely unrationed but very expensive, and few people can afford to purchase clothing from the overstocked stores.**

*Budapest.*

A STORY is going the rounds in Budapest just now about a little thin, hungry Austrian dog which met a big, fat well-fed Hungarian dog on the frontier.

"Heavens, how ill you look," said the sleek Hungarian dog. "Why don't you do things our way? You'd be able to eat whenever you like."

The little Austrian dog looked at it sadly across the frontier. "You may be right," it said, "but I'd sooner be able to bark whenever I like."

People tell this story in Budapest at the tops of their voices in trams and buses. It makes a mere Englishman want to drop through the floor. One somehow finds oneself giving an anxious glance over the shoulder to see who is standing behind. In the old days it used to be the Gestapo, today it is the Economic Police. Hungarians say the difference is that the present boys are much politer.

Strangers to Budapest find it hard to find their way about the city. Many of the main streets have been renamed after Russians, though the Russian troops themselves have vanished. There are Molotov Square and Voroshilov Street and Tolbuchin Street and Stalin Square. Curiously, too, there are Gyorgy Washington Street and Roosevelt Street and Montgomery Street.

Two outstanding things are the attractive, well-dressed women and the overstocked shops. The shops are overstocked partly because few people can afford to buy the goods at present-day prices. A man's ready-made suit costs $120 to $200. Women's clothes are equally dear.

## Shops Are Bursting

Furs are cheap—especially if one is prepared to offer dollars *outside* Hungary. One Hungarian ex-society beauty offered a chinchilla coat for $400 in pounds, dollars or Swiss francs, payable in London, New York or Geneva.

Food is largely unrationed (bread, which is short just now, is an exception), and the shops are bursting. Sugar costs about 60 cents a pound, pork (of which there is a surplus), $1, butter $1 and coffee or cocoa $4, a pound. Tea is $8 a pound. Nylon stockings, a guide to prices all over Europe, are $9 a pair. Beef is not to be had.

Since wages are around the British level an average pay packet doesn't go far. That is to say, if one is not a "worker." By "worker" is meant the government's idea of a working man. If one fits the description one gets things much cheaper by means of special "cut-price coupons." The more favored "workers" certainly eat well. The middle class who may never call themselves "workers" are being squeezed out.

It is harder to get into Hungary than out of it nowadays. If you are a Hungarian wanting to escape you have to have an invitation from abroad before most countries will give a "pre-visa." With this pre-visa one runs warily the gauntlet of the Economic Police. If they approve, one gets an exit permit leading (with luck) to the entry visa into the country to which one wants to emigrate. It is a one-way ticket, and Hungarians anxious to get away hardly ever want to make it a two-way one.

Despite all the difficulties the Hungarians are really getting down to the job of rebuilding their bombed capital. Bridges are first priority, since the Danube is wide and no one wants to have to swim to work. For six months after the fighting the citizens of Buda could not visit the citizens of Pest because the Germans blew every bridge over the river.

In the Communist-dominated government there is a clash between the Russian-trained Hungarian Communists and the home-grown ones. The Russian trainees are more in favor of conciliation with the West. The home-grown Communists adopt a "let the West go hang" attitude.

The Hungarians have discovered a much more entertaining form of amusement which they call Toto. This is really a football pool, and is run on the results of British football teams. A queer sight is the queue for the evening papers to see whether "Chilsee" or "Arznarl" have won!

**A new view of ancient King's School Shop at Canterbury, Kent, which is being renovated after war damage. The old structure was built in 1493.**

• •

## GROWN UP

THOUGH I may gaze with love on you
I shall not tell you if I do.

If I were twenty I would run
To catch you, barefoot in the sun.

And pour my heart like silly sand
To fit the contour of your hand.

But now . . . how very wise I've grown,
For I shall leave you quite alone!

MONA GOULD

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*At extra cost.

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# Dominion Status Spurs Saskatchewan C.C.F.

By EUGENE FORSEY

**This is the third of Mr. Forsey's series of articles on the more extreme claims for sovereign powers for the provinces which have been put forward recently by Canadian provincialists. In this article he deals with the claim that the power of disallowance by the Dominion government (1) is extinct, and (2) is contrary to the proper concept of the responsibility of provincial governments to their electors.**

**In two following articles Mr. Forsey will deal with further arguments of Mr. Shumiatcher, and with the "Kennedy" view of the Dominion-provincial relation.**

IN THIS matter of Dominion status for the provinces, Mr. Duplessis is the chief of sinners. But Dr. Morris Shumiatcher, of the Saskatchewan C.C.F. runs him a close second. In the November 1945 *Canadian Forum*, in an article with the sensational title, "Disallowance: The Constitution's Atomic Bomb", Dr. Shumiatcher set forth a theory of the Canadian Constitution quite as remote from the fact as anything Mr. Duplessis ever produced, and couched in language hardly, if at all, less extravagant. The only excuse which can be offered for him is that some of his wildest statements were based on utterances of Sir Allen Aylesworth and Professor W.P.M. Kennedy, in whose infallibility he appears to have a quite unfounded confidence.

Dr. Shumiatcher begins by quoting Sir Allen Aylesworth: "A provincial legislature, having, as is given to it by the terms of the British North America Act, full and absolute control over property and civil rights within the province might, if it saw fit to do so, repeal Magna Charta itself." This may be good rhetoric, but it is very bad law, and even worse constitutional theory.

In the first place, as Mr. Lapointe pointed out in 1937, the power of provincial Legislatures to legislate in relation to property and civil rights is not unrestricted. "The Provincial Legislature are empowered to legislate in relation to property and civil rights only to the extent that the power to legislate in relation to this subject matter has not been assigned to the Parliament of Canada. Parliament has wide powers in this respect".

## Express Terms

Second, even the restricted power of the province is subject to the Lieutenant-Governor's power to reserve and the Dominion government's power to disallow, which are conferred by the express terms of the British North America Act and have been exercised over and over again, reservation, as we have seen, sixty-five times and disallowance one hundred and twelve (the last case being in 1943).

Third, as Sir Allen Aylesworth himself admitted, in the very debate from which Dr. Shumiatcher quotes, the Fathers of Confederation certainly intended that the power should be exercised to protect private rights against provincial Acts which might take one man's property and give it to another and take away from the injured person any right of redress in the Courts.

A Department of Justice memorandum published in 1937 gives chapter and verse from the Confederation Debates of 1865. George Brown said that the power of disallowance "secured that no injustice shall be done without appeal in local legislation," and his words were received with cries of "hear, hear." Sir Etienne Taché said disallowance could and would be used to protect the rights of property, of bondholders, of "the great religious societies in Montreal." Sir George Cartier said that the power would undoubtedly be used, if necessity arose, to protect the English-speaking population of Quebec against a gerrymander, and that the "presumption" was that it would be used "in case of unjust or unwise legislation." Sir Narcisse Belleau and Alexander Mackenzie, though not among the actual Fathers, were both influential public men at the time, and both spoke to the same effect. Mackenzie's words are particularly notable as coming from a future Prime Minister and leader of the party which, for many years, was the ardent defender of provincial powers. He thought the power of disallowance was necessary "in order that the general government may have a control of the proceedings of the local legislatures to a certain extent . . . . If each province were able to enact such laws as it pleased, everybody would be at the mercy of the local legislature, and the general legislature would be of little importance."

## Clearly Laid Down

Sir John A. Macdonald, in his Report of 1868 on the principles which should govern the power of disallowance, laid it down clearly that provincial Acts should be disallowed if they were either "illegal" (that is, beyond the powers of the Legislature) or "unconstitutional", in whole or in part; and the Report itself, and Macdonald's own practice, leave no doubt that he used the word "unconstitutional" in its British sense of "contrary to the conventions of the Constitution", and, indeed, to cover any legislation which might be deemed inequitable and unjust. The Courts also, as the 1937 memorandum shows, have repeatedly held that the power can properly be used "to prevent any practical inconvenience or mischief arising from the abuse of provincial legislative powers or from hasty or unwise legislation," and that is "the true check for the abuse of powers as distinguished from the unlawful exercise of them." Todd and Dicey have made the same point.

Dr. Shumiatcher's second argument is that, as the British government's power to disallow Dominion Acts is now constitutionally obsolete, the Dominion's power to disallow provincial Acts ought also to be obsolete. The two were conferred together and should disappear together. Indeed, before he is done, he actually goes so far as to state that they have disappeared together: "Whatever the original object of endowing the Dominion government with power to disallow provincial legislation, it is today as unreasonable and unjust a prerogative as that against which the Americans protested in 1774, and in virtue of the 170 years which have intervened, it is safe to regard it as obsolete."

The comparison overlooks two facts: (a) The Americans were protesting against disallowance by an alien government across the sea; Dr. Shumiatcher is protesting against disallowance by a government of our own people at home. (b) Alexander Hamilton, one of the Fathers of the American Constitution, wanted to include in it federal disallowance of state Acts. The argument is even shakier than the comparison, for it manifestly assumes that the provinces enjoy a sort of Dominion status. Unfortunately for Dr. Shumiatcher, that is, to say the least, by no means accepted constitutional theory; and in regard to the specific matter he is discussing it is flagrantly contrary to the facts.

## Quickest Obsolescence

To say that, after being "freely exercised in the years immediately following Confederation," the power of disallowance "fell into gradual disuse," is simply untrue. In the years 1867-1873, five Acts were disallowed; from 1873-1878, eighteen; from 1878-1883, seventeen; from 1884-1896, twenty-five; from 1896-1911, thirty. From 1911-1917, no Acts were disallowed; from 1918-1924, six; from 1924-1936, none; from 1937-1943, eleven. If in the face of this history, it was "safe", in 1945, to regard the power as "obsolete", then it must be the quickest case of constitutional obsolescence on record.

Dr. Shumiatcher then proceeds to the well worn indictment that the power of disallowance "threatens the whole organization of democratic and responsible government. If legislation is considered to be unfair or unjust, the only constitutional recourse is to the legislature itself, and the acts of the legislature can ultimately be judged only by the people . . . .It is vitally important that the responsibility of the government of a province to the legislature, and the responsibility of the legislature to the people it represents, should remain intact. Any federal government which, because it is of the opinion that a provincial statute is undesirable, retains the right to nullify it, thereby relieves the provincial legislature of the logical consequences of its own conduct. It thus defeats the principal end of responsible government. And in addition, it presumes to assume the function of the people of that province who, in the last analysis, alone are capable of determining the wisdom or folly of a particular enactment. To permit the power of disallowance to be exercised, is to ignore the judgment and discretion of the legislatures of the provinces, and to substitute instead the opinions of the federal government. Were this practice to be carried out, there would be little value in electing representatives to the provincial assemblies whose opinions the Dominion government might override at will. This can only be done by bringing upon the Federal government the just accusation that it is materially threatening the independence of the provinces, that it is abrogating the basis of responsible government, and that it is abusing the fundamental tenets of democracy."

## Mixing Questions

The last sentence is not very clear, and the whole passage is confused, extravagant, unrealistic and naive.

It is confused because Dr. Shumiatcher mixes up two distinct questions: whether the power of disallowance should be exercised at all, for any reasons; and whether it should be exercised on the sole ground that the Dominion government considers a particular Act "unfair or unjust". Sir Allen Aylesworth, who thought the power should never be exercised on the latter ground, and practised what he preached, was himself personally responsible for disallowing five Acts while he was Minister of Justice, and during his term of office Sir Wilfrid Laurier, as acting Minister, was responsible for disallowing three more, on various grounds: *ultra vires*, conflict with Dominion legislation, conflict with Dominion interest, conflict with Imperial interest, discrimination against a particular nationality. Even if Dr. Shumiatcher and Sir Allen are right on the one question, which is doubtful, to say the least, it does not follow that Dr. Shumiatcher is right, and Sir Allen and practically every other Minister of Justice wrong, on the other.

Dr. Shumiatcher is guilty of a second confusion when he equates "unfair or unjust" with "undesirable". More than one Minister of Justice has recommended disallowance on the ground that an Act was unfair, unjust, contrary to reason, justice and natural equity. I know of none who has recommended disallowance on the ground that an Act was "undesirable". Plenty of Acts may be highly undesirable in Dr. Shumiatcher's opinion, or mine, or Mr. King's, or Mr. Ilsley's or anyone else's, without any of us being prepared to call them unfair or unjust. Any suggestion that disallowance should be exercised whenever the Dominion government considers a provincial Act undesirable would deserve all Dr. Shumiatcher's strictures, and more. But disallowance on the ground of unfairness and injustice as these words have been generally understood is a different matter. There may be valid reasons for it. Dr. Shumiatcher's leader, Mr. Coldwell, apparently thought so when he demanded disallowance of the Saskatchewan Act of 1943 prolonging the life of the Legislature for a year beyond its maximum term.

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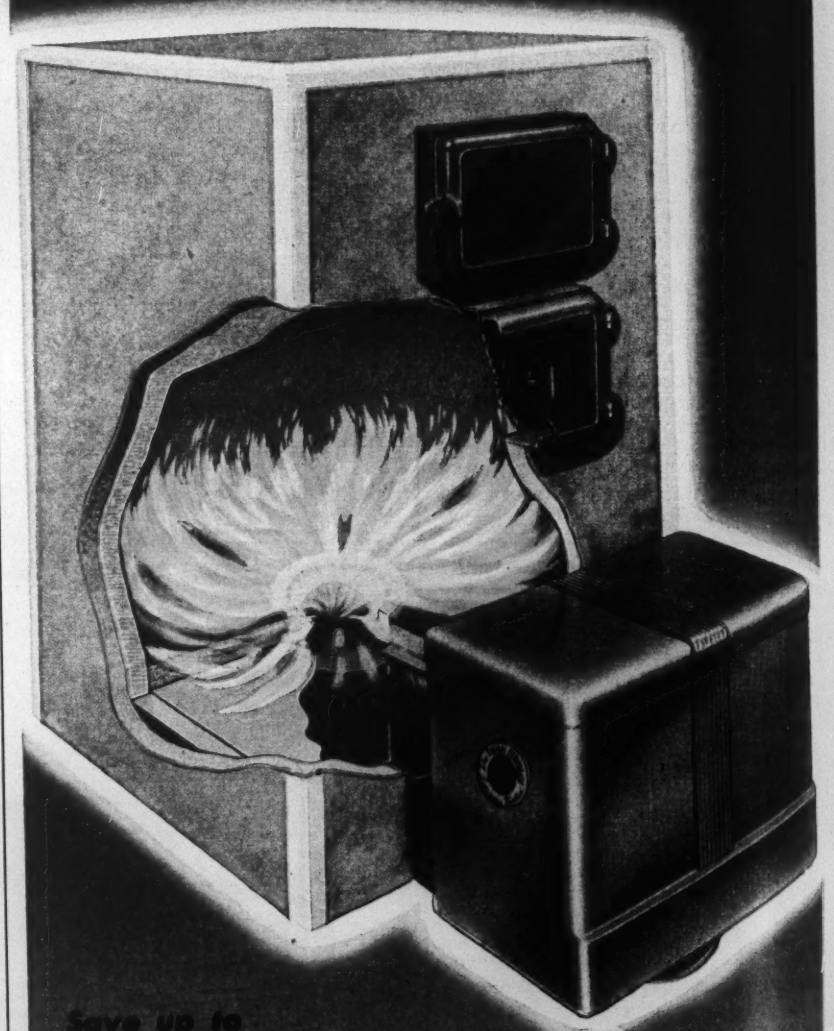

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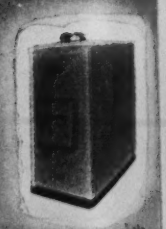

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# Save Our Metis People By New Brand of Aid

By CHRISTINE VAN DER MARK

**Tuberculosis strikes down Canada's half breeds, who have neither the fundamental knowledge of the white man's life nor that of the Indian. This writer of Western Canada, who is the author of the currently popular "In Due Season", pleads on behalf of the Metis for greater understanding of their peculiar problems. One who has already done much for the Metis is Dr. Mary Percy Jackson of Keg River, Alberta.**

THERE is a desperate need for a new approach in regard to the health of half breeds. Whether they live on the northern fringes of settlement, on the outskirts of white communities near Indian Reserves, or, as in some regions of Alberta, in the recently organized Metis colonies, our half breeds are fighting a losing battle against tuberculosis.

These people lack fundamental knowledge of either the white man's life or the Indian. No longer living on the healthful Indian diet, most of them eat poor foods, such as bannock, lard, and tea, eeked out with fresh meat and berries in season. Their homes are small and crowded, often overflowing with visiting relatives. If there is a tuberculosis sufferer among them, everyone in the house is exposed to the disease.

In Alberta, where there is free hospitalization for tuberculosis patients, it might seem surprising that many half breeds who have the disease are not in hospital, but are around and about, menacing the health of others. Or if they do go to hospital, they are likely, after a few months' treatment, to leave against all advice, and return to their own communities to infect many others, and finally, to die.

Doctors who are doing their best to give treatment to these patients may well be discouraged. The fact of the matter is that the native bred to the bush finds unendurable hospitalization in the city among strangers. He may not be able to speak English, and there may not be anyone in his ward who can speak his language. His relatives and friends may be hundreds of miles away. He must lie between clean sheets in a stiff white hospital bed, when all his life he has slept in a bedroll on the floor. For all its vitamins and nourishment, the food is strange. At long intervals, someone from home might be in the city and come to see him, telling him news of his familiar friends. Such visits are likely to make him even more restive. Like an imprisoned wild creature he longs to be free; and his agony of mind is hardly conducive to recovery.

Dr. Mary Percy Jackson of Keg River, Alberta, has lived among Metis people for many years. It is her heart-breaking experience that the children she has known from birth are struck down one after the other with tuberculosis, to die before they reach maturity. And the situation, she insists, is unnecessary. Even under her most careful vigilance in the little Keg River community, the disease continues to spread. It is, she claims, our lack of imagination in dealing with the health of the half breed that causes the tragedy.

## Case of Malcolm Bottle

Take for example the case history of Malcolm Bottle, a little half breed boy from the Keg River community. He had contracted TB from an aunt who had been in hospital for some time, but had finally refused to stay any longer, and had gone home, inevitably to spread the disease among the people of the district. Malcolm was sent "Out", as the saying is in the north, for treatment.

At one period during the long months he was in hospital, he happened to get measles, and became very ill. Every care was taken of the child. He was put into isolation with the light shut out to protect his eyes. In due time he recovered, not only from measles, but also from TB, and returned to his home. Inadequate food and care were given him there and some months later, Dr. Jackson heard by "moccasin telegraph" that Malcolm was on his deathbed. She was mystified as to why she had not been called in to examine him when he became ill. After much roundabout investigation, she was enlightened. When Malcolm had returned home from hospital, he told his parents that at one time he had nearly died at the hospital, and that when hope seemed over for him, he had been put into a dark room, *alone*, to die. This is how measles in the isolation ward had looked to Malcolm. In his delirious state, he had thought he was dying; and to an Indian or a half breed, the idea of dying alone is the most terrible thing he can think of.

Dr. Jackson was not called when Malcolm's parents saw that the disease had flared up in him once more. Malcolm, they decided, would die at home, if he was to die, surrounded by those who loved him. In the meantime, several younger children in their crowded home were being exposed to the disease. This incident is typical of half breed life.

## Human Understanding

In face of these discouraging facts, Dr. Jackson still believes that the disease could be brought under control among these people. Less of gleaming cleanliness and perfection of care, and more human understanding should be brought to the problem, Dr. Jackson thinks. A hospital, or hospitals for half breeds should be built in the north. Such a hospital should be built on a river, on the river flats. Relatives and friends of the patient could then come by canoe, if necessary, to see him, and have a place to camp when they arrived. If the patient could look out of the window and see the tents of his friends pitched outside on the riverbank, he would be able to endure more easily the confinement necessary for his recovery.

"And let his friends go out and hunt him some fresh moosemeat or berries," Dr. Jackson suggests. "And let the patients lie out in the sun on bedrolls on the river bank." Practical education should be brought to half breeds so that they would understand the principles of diet and cleanliness, she thinks. Half breed women could be trained as ward aids and as nurses for the hospital Dr. Jackson visualizes. Then the place would have a homelike and friendly atmosphere to the native patients entering it. "Perhaps my ideas sound fantastic," she says, "but I'm sure they would not be to anyone who really understands the mental makeup and outlook of the half breed."

The loss by death of our Metis population is much greater than one would imagine seeing them in their present state. It is what they could be that speaks the tragedy. They have their own special aptitudes which could be made invaluable in developing our yet lonely and unsettled north country. It would be only common sense to use the services of these people since they, the natives of the land, are more adapted to it than we. Russia has seen the value of her nomadic peoples. She is educating them according to their needs and capabilities, so that they play an intrinsic part in the development of her northern territories which are similar to our own. Looking at the same problem without imagination or foresight, we allow our native people to degenerate and die, thus losing untapped human resources that lie right at hand.


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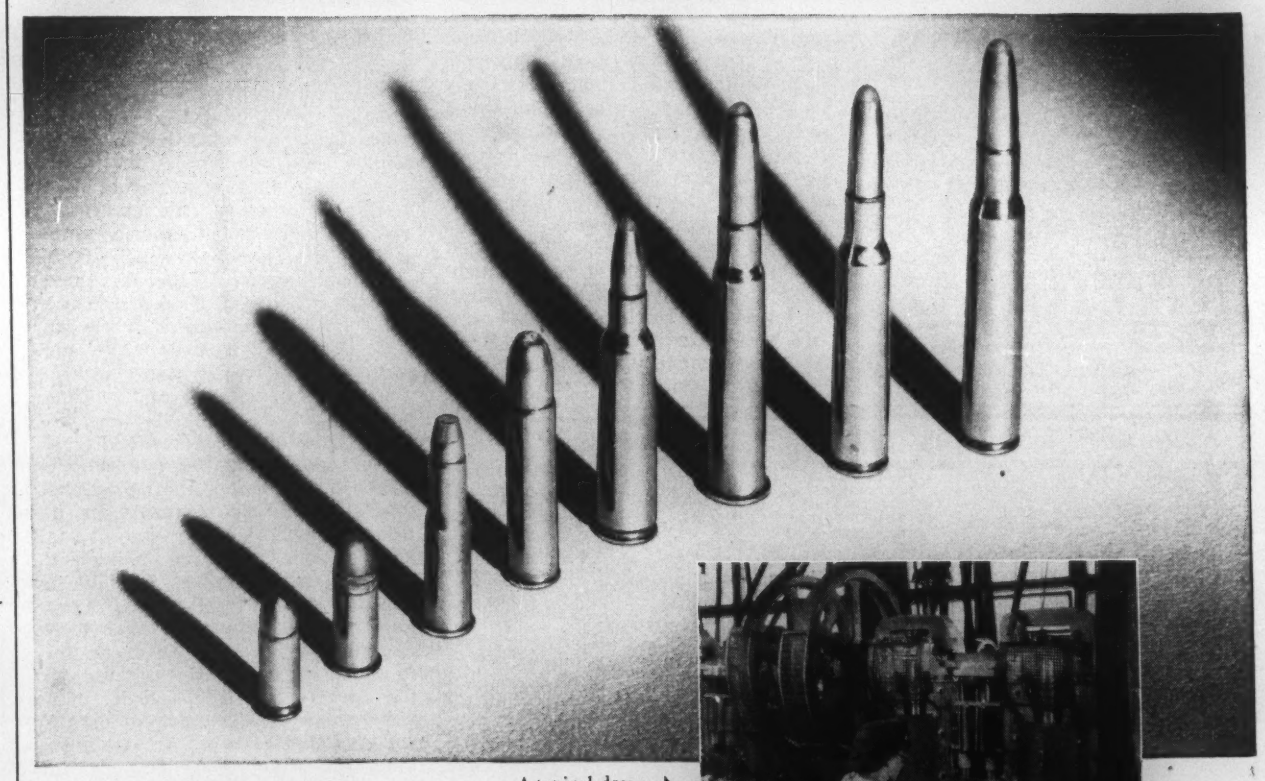

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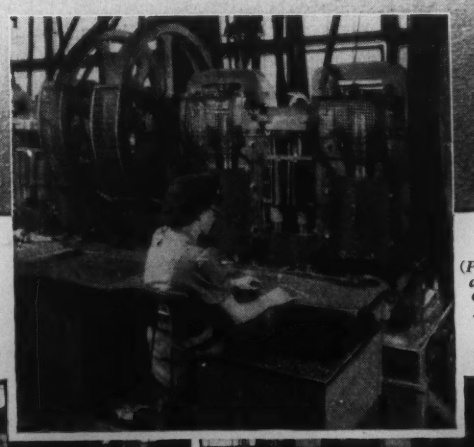

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THE WORLD TODAY

# Trusteeship Best for Palestine, Can U.N. Turn Back to It?

By WILLSON WOODSIDE

IT IS with a sense of near hopelessness that one picks up the Palestine problem again. I did not believe, myself, that the partition plan adopted last November was a good or practicable solution. But considering the harm that has been done by the months of drift since then, and the possibility of finding any better solution under the present circumstances, I can appreciate the argument of some delegates who voted for partition while not really favoring it, that almost any solution would be better than none.

In the event, the solution broke down because, whether it was good, bad or indifferent, it couldn't be carried through as one party had not agreed to it and there was no provision for enforcing it.

Perhaps it would be best to try to set down first, in a few words, what has happened to vitiate all the effort which the United Nations put into finding a Palestine solution, between April and November of last year. After all of its investigation and deliberation *the Assembly could only pass a resolution recommending to its members the partition plan* which it had worked out and accepted (by 33 votes to 13, with 10 abstentions).

It is quite misleading to say that the United Nations "decided" that Palestine should be partitioned, and is being defied by some of its members. It recommended the partition plan, and some members—the Arab states— have declined to accept that recommendation, just as they always said they would. It is thus the fault of the constitution of the U.N., which is only a league of states and not a world government, that its attempt to solve the Palestine problem has been frustrated.

The failure was not due, in the main, to lack of intelligence, sincerity or goodwill on the part of the delegates, though it is true that misjudging the intensity of the Arab opposition and the finality of the British decision to drop the burden, and refusing to face squarely the question of whether they were willing to have Soviet troops included in any Security Council enforcement plan, as they would have to be, the United States delegation lobbied many of the others into supporting the plan against their own better judgment.

The outstanding example of this was the case of Sir Carl Berendsen of New Zealand, one of the staunchest and most respected supporters of the United Nations. A few days before the final vote he declared: "My government wants to vote for partition, but we have the gravest apprehensions about enforcement and implementation. . . The woefully weak provisions of the partition plan should be strengthened. It would help if we could have a declaration by the members of the United Nations, and particularly by the five permanent members of the Security Council, that if the contingency we fear—disorder and bloodshed in Palestine—arises they will join in a united and concerted effort to suppress violence by an international military force to which all members of the United Nations will contribute. This is a duty which the United Nations owes to itself and also to the Arab and Jewish people of Palestine."

## How Partition Broke Down

There was the voice of wisdom and prudence. But it went unheeded. The plan, which the majority of the delegates accepted unenthusiastically as making the best of a bad job, remained unprovided with any provisions for enforcement. It started to break down within a fortnight, when the Foreign Ministers' Conference collapsed, leaving the peace treaties unwritten and the rivalry between the Soviet Union and the United States accentuated, and making it unthinkable for the Americans to permit the Soviets to set up a zone of occupation in Palestine, in the heart of the Middle East.

At the same time the proof which the Arabs proceeded to provide so forcefully of their violent opposition, and the proof which the British went ahead providing so purposefully, of their determination to shed the mandate, the steadily increasing scale of fighting in Palestine and the enforced stoppage of construction on the Transarabian Pipeline, all compelled the Americans to reconsider their position fundamentally.

The growing unsettlement in the Middle East held in it the danger of the extinction or surrender of the Jewish community; the creation of an animosity against America among all the Arab peoples, which the Soviets could exploit; the loss of oil supplies which American experts consider vital to the success of the Marshall Plan and reserves which some consider vital to the maintenance of American industrial and military power; and the ultimate possibility of bringing on another world war.

Very late in the day, with only ten weeks to run before the Government of Palestine was to disappear into thin air, the Americans, who had taken the lead in putting through the partition plan, moved to have the U.N. drop it. They hoped thus to avert (1) inflaming the Arab world, endangering the Jewish community in Palestine and unsettling the Middle East further, (2) inviting in Soviet troops, as a component of a Security Council force, (3) having to take on the whole responsibility themselves and bringing American troops into conflict with both Jews and Arabs, and (4) having the British pull out and let the administrative services of Palestine collapse completely.

## More Questions Than Answers

Another Special Assembly of the U.N. has now been convoked, to try to work out a new solution. The plan which the United States Delegation is expected to put before it envisages *a truce* to be accepted by both Jews and Arabs, and *a temporary trusteeship* to be set up in the name of the whole U.N., with a governing commission drawn from several member states, and forces provided if possible by half a dozen smaller states or if necessary by Britain, France and the United States, on a basis of voluntary, individual enlistment.

Can this plan be carried through? As the special Assembly convened, in an atmosphere of almost unrelieved gloom, there were more questions than answers. Stated by an able *Christian Science Monitor* correspondent, the main questions are somewhat as follows:

(1) Will the Assembly accept the United States proposal for conversion of the British mandate over the Holy Land into a trusteeship pending agreement between Arabs and Jews?

(2) Will any agreement between these two bitter disputants ever be possible?

(3) Will the Assembly stand on its previous decision, and insist that the Security Council produce orderly conditions in which partition can be carried out?

(4) Can a trusteeship be established, any more than partition could be effected, without provision for enforcement?

(5) Can a truce ordered by the Security Council be made actual without the dispatch of an international force to Palestine to bring about a cessation of hostilities?

(6) If warfare between Arabs and Jews develops on a major scale, will the Security Council take adequate steps to halt it?

(7) What will happen if and when the Jews attempt to set up an independent state on May 16, as they have declared they will do?

One could add a few more, but if we can find answers to these we


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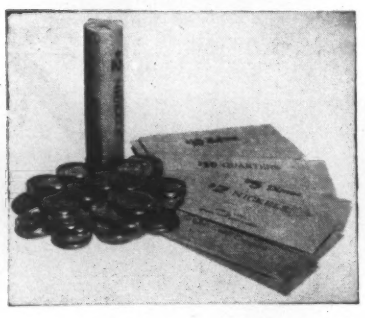

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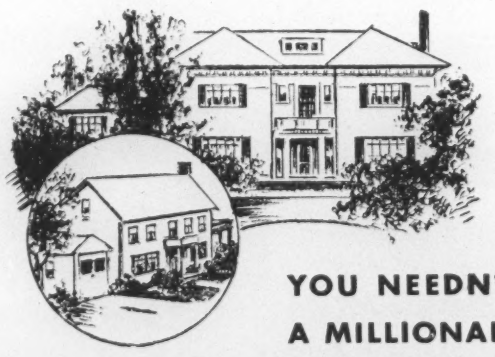

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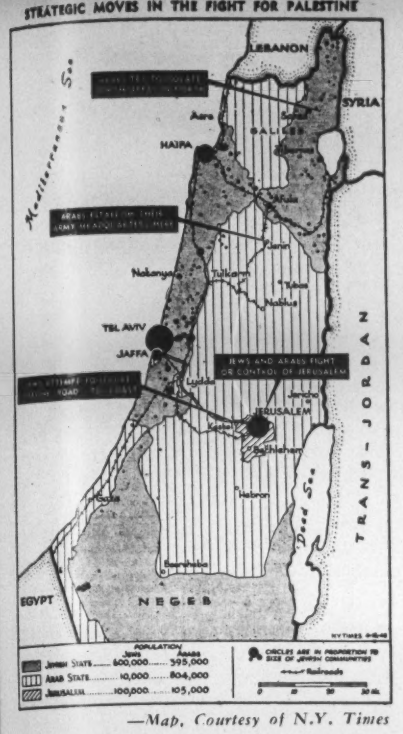
STRATEGIC MOVES IN THE FIGHT FOR PALESTINE




—Map, Courtesy of N.Y. Times

will be doing very well. I am inclined to think that the Special Assembly will accept the Trusteeship proposal. Along with the change of mind of the United States—without whose support the partition plan would never have gone through—there was a pretty clear indication in the election of two abstainers of last November as the Assembly's principal officers that partition sentiment has declined. Indeed, the solid alignment of the Latin American with the Arab states in the vote for these officers makes it appear as though the Latins had decided on their course at Bogota.

No matter how gloomy its presentiments, the Assembly must try to take some positive step rather than simply wait for chaos, and there doesn't seem to be much else but trusteeship to which it can turn in the time available. Obviously there isn't time, as there was last year, for a full discussion of the federal plan favored by a minority of the United Nations Commission on Palestine, or of the somewhat similar plan long advanced by the wise and moderate Dr. Magnes, Rector of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. But the Assembly can turn with something of a flourish and take its stand on the report of the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry of 1946.

## Anglo-American Report

This much-neglected report, of which the American Government was only interested in implementing the single provision for immigration, stated prophetically that "to establish an independent Palestinian State or States now would result in civil strife which might threaten the peace of the world. Until Arab-Jewish hostility disappears, therefore, the Government of Palestine should be continued as at present under mandate, *pending the execution of a trusteeship agreement under U.N.*"

That is only one of ten points. The rest look equally good today. The first recommendation was that since Palestine could not handle all of the Jewish D.P.'s, other countries should help find new homes for these. The second was that 100,000 of these D.P.'s should be allowed to go to Palestine as rapidly as conditions permitted.

The third, and key recommendation was this: "A clear statement should be made on the political future of Palestine, to the effect that Jew shall not dominate Arab and Arab shall not dominate Jew; that Palestine shall be neither a Jewish nor an Arab State; and that Palestine must ultimately become a self-governing State, guarding the rights of Moslem, Jew and Christian alike."

Other recommendations call for the rescinding of the land transfer regulations of 1940, the protection of the Holy Places, large-scale plans for economic development, in which the cooperation of adjoining Arab States should be secured, reforms in the educational system in the interests of Arab-Jewish conciliation, and the raising of the standard of living of Arabs more nearly to that of Jews.

Finally, it laid down firmly that "it should be made clear beyond all doubt to both Jews and Arabs that any attempt from either side, by threats of violence, by terrorism, or by the use of illegal armies to prevent the execution of the Report will be resolutely suppressed. The Jewish Agency should at once resume active cooperation with the Mandatory in the suppression of terrorism and illegal immigration, and in the maintenance of law and order throughout Palestine."

This doesn't condone the entry into Palestine of armed Arab gangs from outside. The main Zionist stipulation for accepting a truce is that all of these must leave the country. The Arab view is, somewhat understandably, that all of the armed Jews have also come into Palestine from outside, and many of them in contravention of the mandate on which the Jewish Agency takes its stand in this document. The Agency view is that these Jews have come there to make their home "in their own country." Which carries us right back to the beginning of the Palestine controversy: whose country is it?

Can a truce be brought about and a trusteeship established? On the whole the Arab states, many of whom are worried about the ambitions of Abdullah to annex most of Arab Palestine to Transjordan, are more ready to accept this than the Zionists, who have already publicly proclaimed their intention of setting up a Jewish State on May 16.

If anything, the impossibility of defending anything like the full area of the Jewish State delineated in last year's partition award, will bring the Jewish Agency to accept the truce and trusteeship. It will not be a happy solution for anyone, for the Jews who see their tiny state snatched from their grasp at the moment when their 2000-year dream seems to be realized; for the Arabs who claim the right of self-determination for their people who have lived here 2000 years; or for the United Nations, which has far less prestige to back up the new solution than the previous one.

But what is the alternative? In three weeks' time the government of Palestine, its railways, post offices and all other services of a modern state will be closed down. Darkness will fall over Palestine, lit only by the red flash of gun fire.

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SPORTING LIFE

# Mr. Lou Pfaltz, Wrestling Promoter, Comes Up With a Great Idea

By KIM McILROY

MR. LOU PFALTZ, the well-known promoter of clean, honest professional wrestling, had a great idea. It was the sort of idea that had enabled Lou to reach the present pinnacle of his profession, as the undisputed genius in the realm of sporting contests of speed, skill, and endurance.

"How often I had you fellows in there gouging and biting?" Lou demanded happily of his intent audience of two.

"Lots of times, Lou," Homer Hoskins replied. "Looka my ears."

"Sure," Lou agreed, nodding vigorously. "And then what? Then I get the idea maybe you should start hitting the other guy with the ring stool. How often I had my wrestlers doing that?"

"I can't remember, Lou," Gus Grudza said, reminiscently rubbing his scarred cranium.

"Strangling the other guy with the ropes?" Lou asked.

"Sure, Lou."

"Tossing him out on the cement?"

"All the time."

"So bad that most bouts the crowd is trying to climb into the ring to lynch you."

"That happened only last week."

Lou sat back in his chair and puffed contentedly at his cigar. He looked at Homer and then at us. They looked back at him, holding their breaths with suspense.

"What am I going to do when you two wrestle Thursday night?" Lou demanded.

"I don't know, Lou," Homer said dutifully, "but I'll bet it's good."

"You're going to shoot Gus," Lou said.

Homer blinked. "*Shoot* him?" He thought it over. "Gus ain't gonna like that, are you, Gus?"

Lou didn't wait to hear what Gus was or was not going to like. It didn't matter.

"You're going to have this gun hid in your trunks," he continued, describing the proposed action with expressive hands. "At the crucial moment, with the crowd yelling for your blood, you're going to pull out this gun and shoot Gus. Shoot him dead. Dead as a doornail there on the canvas."

Gus said, "Gee!"

"Wait a minute," Lou cautioned. "You don't understand. This gun is full of nothing but blanks. It don't hurt you none. Only you pretend it does, see? You fall on the canvas and we lug you out. And then we say isn't it too bad, it was a grudge fight and Homer sort of lost his temper. It'll be sensational."

"Yeah," Homer admitted.

"How about when the crowd sees me wandering around later, hale and hearty as can be, ain't that going to sort of take the edge off it?" Gus wanted to know.

Lou held up a finger. "I thought of that. They aren't going to see you. Right after we lug you into the dressing room you get your clothes on and sneak out of there, and you go to your boarding house and you stay there, not budging for *anything*, until I figure the joke's gone far enough and tell you to come out. You got that?"

Gus concentrated for several seconds with his eyes closed. Then he opened them. "I got it," he said.

"Okay," Lou said. "It'll be the biggest thing ever to hit wrestling. Nobody ever thought of having anybody *shoot* anybody before."

"I got to hand it to you, Lou," Homer agreed admiringly.

"Okay, boys," Lou said, standing up. "I'll see you Thursday night."

ON THURSDAY night, things went better than even Lou had hoped. Even the preliminaries were good, and in the main bout Homer Hoskins and Gus Grudza were, as advertised, sensational. The crowd was eager to lynch Homer as early as the five-minute mark, and at the end of half an hour only a cordon of stalwart policemen was preventing hotter heads from climbing into the ring. It was at that moment that Homer, after a particularly vicious exchange of elbows and knees with Gus, reached into his trunks and drew forth a revolver.

The crowd, strangely, fell silent in awe. It had never seen wrestlers resort to gunplay before, although other forms of mayhem were to be expected and cheered. Gus, acting magnificently, cringed. Homer, mercilessly, pointed the weapon, muttered an imprecation, and fired. Gus fell.

In the pandemonium which followed, two of Lou's assistants dashed into the ring, lifted the recumbent Gus onto a stretcher, and rushed him off to a dressing room. The blue-coated cordon formed around Homer and escorted him through the screaming mob to another dressing room. To that rendezvous went the happy Lou, rubbing his hands with delight. "Wait till the rest of the promoters hear about *this* one!" he said gleefully to himself, though he was forced to shout above the general uproar. "Are *they* going to be jealous!"

Homer was in the dressing room. So were the policemen, all of them.

Lou encompassed them unreservedly with an expression of his gratitude. "Thanks, boys," he said. "You were great. Wonderful. Couldn't of handled it better myself."

"Where's the corpus delicti?" a big sergeant asked accusingly. "Don't you know the body shouldn't ought to be moved before the coroner has viewed it?"

"Corpus? Corp . . . Oh, you mean Gus!" Lou threw back his head and laughed heartily. "I'll show you where *Gus* is." His little act had worked out even better than he'd hoped. He walked to the door of the other dressing room, opened it, and called, "Hey, Gus, come here a minute."

There was no answer. The two assistants came to the door, looking puzzled.

"Where's Gus?" Lou demanded.

The assistants scratched their heads. "Gus?" one of them asked. "Why, he went home, like you told him."

"Ha!" the big police sergeant snorted. "Home!"

"Well, go get him," Lou said to his assistants.

"Where's he live, Lou?"

Lou stared.

"This fellow's under arrest," the police sergeant said, indicating Homer, "for murder." He added, "And I got more than half a mind to hold you as an accessory."

Lou was beginning to perspire profusely. "Look, officer," he said, "this was all just a little joke."

"You go get that fellow that was shot," the sergeant said. "If *he* laughs, then I'll believe you."

Homer said pitifully, "Hey, Lou," and held up his manacled wrists.

Lou said, "Don't worry about a thing, Homer. We'll get this straightened away."

AN EFFICIENT-LOOKING young man in a business suit and wearing glasses walked into the dressing room.

"Peters. Assistant crown attorney," he announced brusquely. "Where's the body, sergeant?"

"This guy had it carted away," the sergeant replied.

The young man frowned at Lou. "Why?" he asked. "Why did you do a thing like that?"

"Because he wasn't *dead*," Lou almost shouted at him.

Peters frowned again. "I'm informed fifteen thousand people saw him lying there, dead," he said.

"Fifteen thousand?" Lou asked, brightening. "As many as that?" He remembered quickly. "Look," he said, "it was all a gag. Nobody got killed. It was an act. We do these things all the time."

Peters' brows went up abruptly "All the time? You have people killed in the ring all the time?"

"A mass-murderer," the sergeant said.

"Gus isn't any more dead than you are." Lou insisted. "I told him to get his clothes on and go home. You'll see: he's as alive as anybody."

The assistant crown attorney didn't believe *that*, but he said judiciously, "Now, look, my information is that a cold-blooded murder was committed here tonight, by that man there," Homer bleated futilely and unhappily, "and that you were a party to concealing the body. Even though we're going to be a little handicapped by the absence of a corpus delicti—unless we find it in the meantime, which is probable—I think we can get a conviction. You claim that the victim isn't dead. All right, you produce him and we'll drop the charges."

"Go ahead, Lou, produce him," Homer said eagerly.

LOU called his two assistants. "I want you two guys to go out and canvas every boarding house in town," he ordered. "Find Gus. That shouldn't be hard. It frightens little children just to look at him. Nobody who's ever seen him is going to forget him."

"Okay, Lou, we'll do our best," the assistants said, and went out.

"They better had," Peters remarked, eying Homer, "or it's going to go hard with this young man here. The citizens are aroused and demanding action."

Lou couldn't help chuckling a little. "Since it's all going to turn out all right just as soon as we produce Gus," he said, "you got to admit that nobody ever thought up a more sensational wrestling bout. They'll be talking about this one for years."

An arena attendant came in with a slip of paper and handed it to Lou. Lou put on his glasses and started to read.

"Dere Loo I'm taking a powder I been willin to put up with a lot of things like ring stules and stranglin by the ropes and all that but this here with a gun is too much and Im gettin out while I still got my health more or less Dont try to find me on account of you wont and by the time you read this Ill be miles away and never comin back Signed your old frend Gus."

"Good news, Lou?" Homer asked hopefully.

"Sure, sure," Lou said, crumpling the paper and stuffing it into his pocket, "and incidentally I got a new idea. A great idea. There's this wrestler wears a black mask over his face and has a rope in his hand, and we call him the Hangman and. . ."

• •

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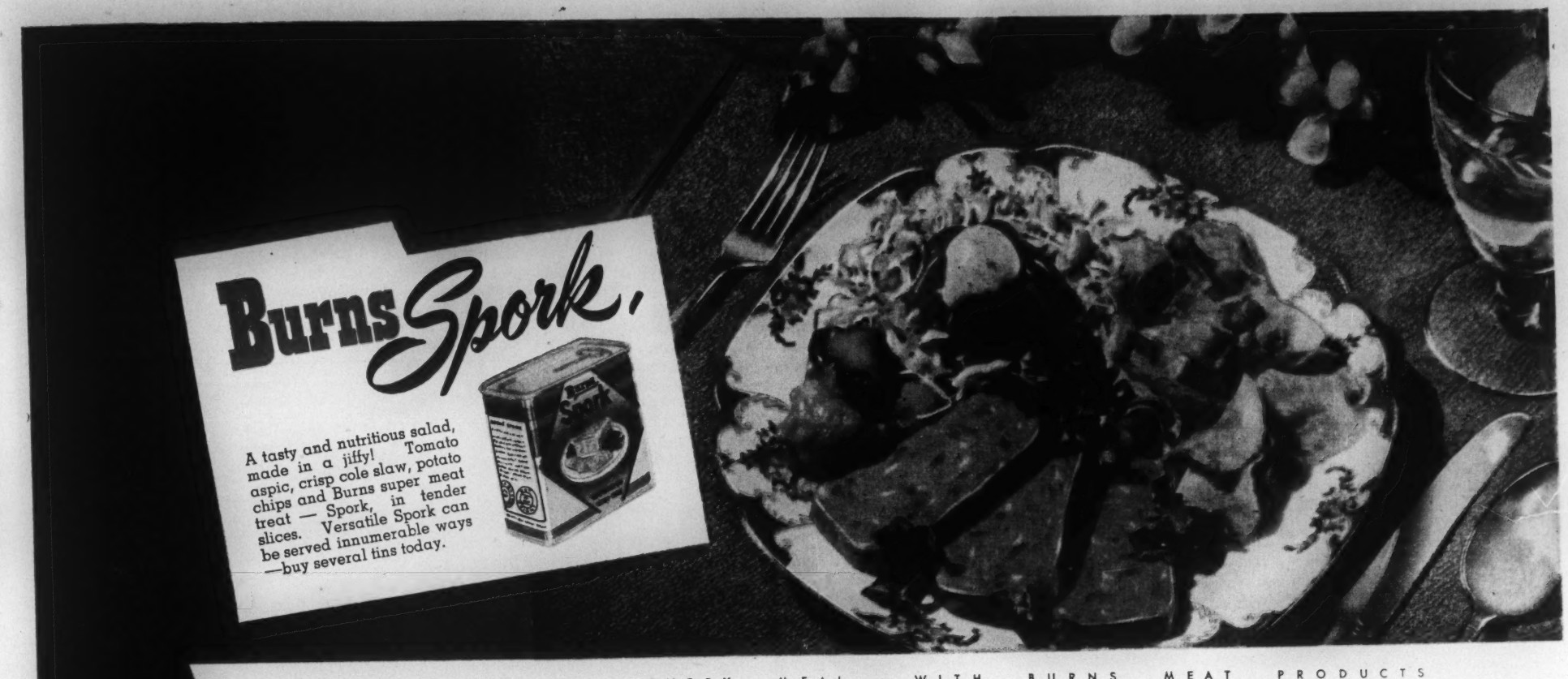
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CLIPPINGS DEPARTMENT

# U.K. Chair-Making Firm Doubling in Romance and Export Trade

**Reprinted from The Cabinet Maker magazine (England, Dec. 1947)**

*The picture story of a famous English wood-carving firm (S.N., Dec. 13) attracted the attention of the company's managing director, R. A. Janes. In an appreciative letter he has sent us the clipping of an article about his High Wycombe company and its ancient and honorable craft.*

ONE of the oldest furniture firms in High Wycombe—home for centuries of the craft of chair making—is Nicholls and Janes, Ltd., whose premises occupy a considerable area in the St. Mary Street district of the town. The business had a romantic beginning.

In 1805, the year of Trafalgar, a local worthy, Samuel Treacher, who occupied Hill Farm on the top of Marlow Hill, had the idea of teaching his farm hands to make up the products of the chair bodgers into Windsor chairs, to keep them occupied during the winter months. At that time although the bodgers had been in the High Wycombe district from time immemorial, the results of their labors were usually sent away to London or Birmingham for assembly. Treacher rightly believed that this process could profitably be carried out in the town.

Soon after, another High Wycombe man, Thomas Widginton, built a small chair factory in St. Mary Street, where he employed twenty to thirty men all the year round, assembling and finishing Windsor and cane seated chairs. This was in 1810. The original premises are still in existence and today form part of the extensive modern factory of Nicholls and Janes. Widginton's venture was a success from the start though it resulted in two or three of his men breaking away and starting for themselves. By 1865 there were nearly twenty chair factories in the town.

The great-grandfather of Mr. R. A. Janes, present managing director of Nicholls and Janes Ltd., who had carried on the chair bodging business at Penn founded by his father, sent his son to London to learn to make the best class of chair. About 1866 he was induced to come to Wycombe to teach men employed at Birch's, then the largest firm in the town, to make folding chairs of quite tricky construction, much in favor on the decks of liners and passenger steamers of that time. In 1869 the present Mr. Janes's father and his maternal grandfather, Mr. Nicholls, started in some small wooden shops behind the Golden Fleece public house, making a good class of dining-and drawing-room chair.

Mr. R. A. Janes started work at the factory in July, 1885 at the age of twelve and three-quarters. In a chat with a representative of *The Cabinet Maker* he said: "The conditions under which we worked in those days makes me wonder what the modern workers would have done about them. We had no artificial lighting and, except for the heat from the drying stove, we had no warmth at all in winter, though the hard nature of our work soon warmed us on the coldest day. We had no machinery except the sawmill, and this was only an upright horizontal affair—very crude.

"Some married women got work making up chairs in their own homes, and it was a common sight seventy or eighty years ago to see women lugging home six or eight seats on one arm, with a large bundle of cane on the other. The price paid for such work was varied from 2d. to 6d. per seat, and it was a quick worker who could finish even the commonest seat in an hour. In those days bow sawing, fret cutting, planing and morticing all had to be done by hand."

Mr. Janes said, "I wonder what would happen if the present-day workman was asked, as workmen were then, to carry all the timber or other supplies into the factory and stack it, doing this for no pay!"

**A British racing motorist, R. G. J. Nash, has overcome the gasoline problem. From his collection of "museum-piece" cars he has taken an 1898 electric carriage formerly owned by Queen Alexandra and put it in order for short trips. Battery needs recharging after 25 miles.**

## Exit Bodgers

Mr. Janes has written an interesting account of the chair bodgers and pit sawyers, of whom he has so intimate a knowledge. In years gone by these men, generally numbering from three to five, would buy what was known as a "fall of timber" from the different owners. Sometimes it was enough to keep them employed for a year or more in the same wood. After selecting a site they would build a rough shelter. There are a few of the old bodgers still carrying on in the woods around Wycombe, but modern machine turning has almost rendered them obsolete.

In the factories, Mr. Janes said, some firms installed gas rings with open burners, but the men had to pay 6d. a week for such a privilege. Paraffin lamps were also placed in some factories. The workpeople usually commenced at half past seven each morning. At ten o'clock they were given a ten-minute break for beer and bread and cheese. The dinner hour was from noon to 1 p.m., and tea was served while work still proceeded from 3.30 to 4 p.m.

Nicholls and Janes today are mainly engaged on the manufacture of high-grade furniture for export, and they recently completed a special order for a foreign monarch. Some of this furniture was made in another interesting old building which has been incorporated into the present factory. This was once an old chapel, built in the eighteenth century, in which John Wesley used to preach when he was in High Wycombe. Traces of the original gallery can still be discerned.

Remarking on the great age of bodging, Mr. Janes said that the chair bodger was working in the Buckinghamshire woods long before chairs were made in High Wycombe.

## Lace Before Chairs

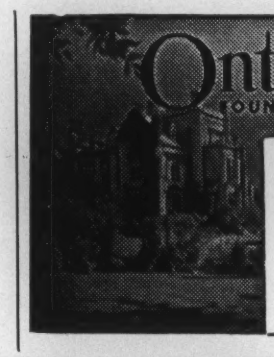
"My grandfather", he said, "had a gang of men making these chair parts for him in the woods at Penn and Amersham as far back as 1760. There were no Wycombe chair makers then and the chair parts were sent sometimes as far away as Scotland. Previous to 1885 there was a great deal of Buckinghamshire pillow lace made in Wycombe, and it was a common thing on fine days to see the women sitting at their doors with the pillows on their knees and the bobbins plying backwards and forwards, busily engaged on the lace which was then so popular. Many women were also employed threading small glass beads on cotton and afterwards sewing them on cloth to patterns supplied by the factor.

"Both these jobs were very badly paid for and very little was left for the purchase of coal, so the women adopted a novel method of keeping themselves warm in winter. Sitting on a cane-seated stool or chair they would place under the seat a 'shock pot' half filled with burning charcoal. Then they would pull their voluminous skirts around it."

Mr. Janes recalls how the smaller firms sent out vans piled high with Windsor or cane set chairs, from which the vanman, often the principal himself, hawked all over the country from shop to shop and sometimes from house to house. In years gone by, very few chair makers in the Wycombe district, except the apprentices, worked after midday on Mondays. The more industrious spent the remainder of the day in their gardens. The greater majority went off in gangs to different country pubs, playing cricket, quoits, pitch and toss, running, jumping and any simple form of contest on which they could have a bet for beer.

"All this looks like time lost," added Mr. Janes, "But it did not work out that way as the piece work enabled the men, by working harder and putting in more time during the rest of the week, to make up for it."

Mr. R. A. Janes is hale and hearty and still actively engaged in the control of his large business at the age of seventy-five. The firm has been noted for its export trade for over forty years. Beautiful specimens of furniture made in their factory by craftsmen have been sent to practically every part of the world. They are playing an important part in helping the trade to achieve the new export target recently fixed by the Board of Trade.

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THE LIGHTER SIDE

# Bedtime Story: The Ogre Inflation

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

ONCE upon a time there was a good old couple named Mr. and Mrs. Consumer. They had once been quite well to do, but now they were very poor and getting poorer every day.

This was because they were constantly plundered by Inflation, an ogre of the period. No matter how carefully they hid their savings, behind the pictures, or in the sugar-bowl, or in a pillow-case, a little more disappeared every day. They knew that Inflation was responsible for this because in their distress they had consulted one of the leading magicians of the country. He had given them a vial containing seven secret essences gathered by moonlight from seven economic sources and had told them if they would take it twice daily it would make them understand the language of economists. The old couple had obeyed his instructions faithfully and this was how they came to know that Inflation had run off with their savings.

Unfortunately the knowledge was of very little use to them since their savings continued to disappear. Their cries and lamentations finally reached the ears of the King, who immediately appointed an Investigator to go up and deal with the ogre.

The old people rejoiced when they heard the news. "Now maybe we can buy something besides food," Mrs. Consumer said. "We might even get a new bath-stopper to take the place of the one we lost," said Mr. C.

On the day appointed the Investigator set out bravely for the land of the ogre. He climbed the great spiralling beanstalk and having reached the top made his way through the business section of Inflation, carefully noting the signs of prosperity as he passed: "Rapunzal Hair Treatment, Regular Price, $6.98, Special $9.98", "Grade A, Golden Eggs at Inflation Prices", "Prefabricated Swineherds' Huts, $3,000 down", etc., etc. He left the city behind him and in the fields the profits from the fall planting were already beginning to turn green, and in the orchards the dollars were budding on the trees.

AT LAST he arrived at the ogre's castle. The ogre was sitting in his great hall and he was busy counting his money, putting the five, ten, twenty and hundred dollar bills in neat piles and tossing the dollar bills and change into the chicken-feed bin.

"I'd like to look over your books," said the Investigator, and added quickly as the ogre's face darkened, "merely a routine checkup."

They spent a pleasant afternoon going over the books, after which the Investigator set out for home. At the foot of the beanstalk he found Mr. and Mrs. Consumer waiting.

"Did you kill the ogre?" they asked.

"You understand this was merely an investigation," the Investigator said, and added encouragingly, "I find, however, that the price of milk is much too high."

"But didn't you deal with Inflation?" Mr. Consumer asked.

"Everything in good time," the Investigator said. "Tomorrow I shall deal with the price of bread."

The second day passed like the first, and returning in the evening he was met once more by Mr. and Mrs. Consumer. "Did you kill the ogre?"

"Everything in good time," said the Investigator, "tomorrow I shall investigate the price of butter," and he raised his hat and said good-evening.

"Good evening," said the old couple. They looked at each other sadly, then went back and sat down outside their hut to listen to the twilight twittering of the economists.

The next day the Investigator found the ogre so cheerful that he couldn't help remarking it.

"Never felt better in my life," said the ogre. "Did you hear about the new 21 per cent increase in freight-rates? That means we can raise the ceiling on butter and sugar not to mention the price of coal and canned goods."

In spite of himself the Investigator shivered. "Feeling chilly?" asked the ogre, and going over to the great fireplace he started a fire, using a twenty-dollar bill.

"Yes, but who's going to pick up the check on this?" the Investigator asked.

The ogre chuckled. "I guess we can still pass it on to Mr. and Mrs. Consumer," he said.

As usual Mr. and Mrs. Consumer were waiting at the foot of the beanstalk as the Investigator descended. And as usual they cried, the moment the Investigator dropped to the ground, "Did you kill the ogre?"

The Investigator straightened his tie. "Now listen, my dear old friends," he said, "you have, as you know, a ceiling price on butter and sugar. That's so much to the good, isn't it? And if, in order to meet the new 21 per cent increase in freight-rates, we have to raise the ceiling a little, you'll still have your ceiling won't you?"

"Yes, but—," began Mr. Consumer.

"There will also be slight increases all along the way," the Investigator went on quickly. "But remember, you can't have Prosperity without rising prices and you can't have rising prices without Inflation. When you look at it that way, you must realize that Inflation is your friend."

"Tomorrow," he added, "I shall investigate the price of manufactured textiles," and with that he wished them good-evening and went away.

The old couple went back and sat down in front of their humble hut. "We have now used up all our savings including our war-bonds and life insurance," Mr. Consumer said. "We still have our funeral insurance but unfortunately we can't touch that. There is only one thing for us to do. We must disappear."

After a little they went back into the kitchen, where they closed all the windows and stuffed up all the cracks. Then they lay down on the floor and turned on the gas-cock.

"Well, anyway there's one thing," Mrs. Consumer said just before she expired, "we got this in before they raised the gas rates."

THE disappearance of Mr. and Mrs. Consumer brought with it many calamities, which we need not go into here. It did, however, have one happy result, which the King of the country did not hesitate to point out as one of the crowning achievements of his domestic policy. In the end he raised a public memorial to the departed Mr. and Mrs. Consumer. The inscription read:

*In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Consumer,*
*Who by their selfless action*
*And heroic sacrifice*
*Ended the Reign of the Ogre Inflation.*

The cost of the memorial, needless, to say, was defrayed by the funeral insurance of Mr. and Mrs. Consumer.


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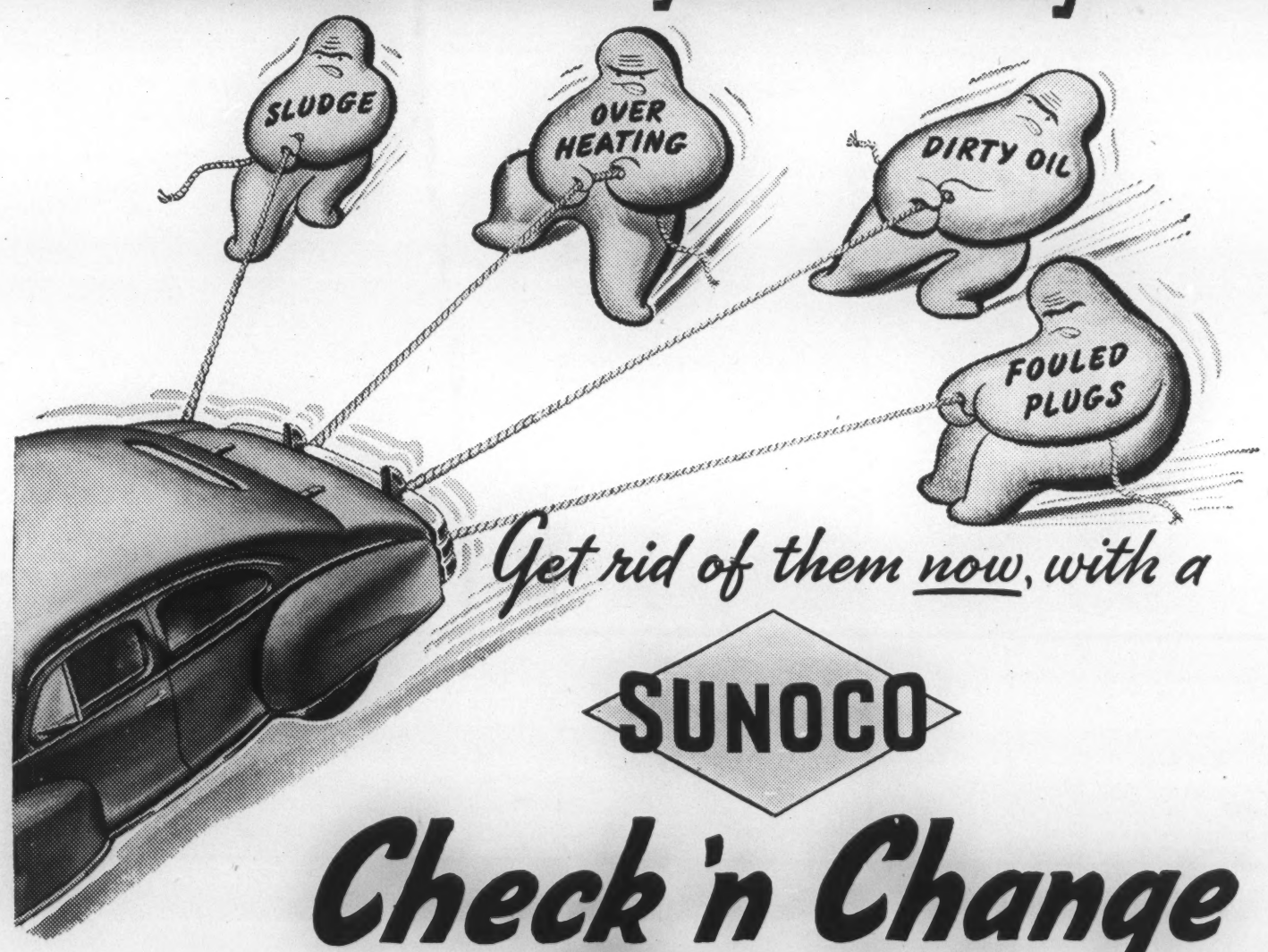


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THE SCIENCE FRONT

# More Exact Telepathy as Medium To End Wars and Win Utopia

By JOHN J. O'NEILL

*New York.*

DR. Joseph B. Rhine, professor of psychology at Duke University, Durham, N.C., father of the scientific "extrasensory preception" investigation of telepathy, clairvoyance and other manifestations of "psi," is on the trail of the greatest discovery in this field. Should he make it, the world might be a far better place to live in.

The goal at which Dr. Rhine is aiming seems reasonably simple—making the person who receives a telepathic impression know he is right when he is right. Or he wants to create a direct connection between the conscious and subconscious realms of the mind.

When this is accomplished, declared Dr. Rhine in his new book, "The Reach of the Mind" (published by McLeod, Toronto, $4.00), the uncertainty will be taken out of telepathy and the right signal will be called every time.

Telepathy and other allied phenomena take place in an unconscious realm of the mind, and when the transmission from mind to mind is achieved it percolates through in a somewhat nebulous way in the mind of the receiver from the unconscious to the conscious realm, and there is no certainty that the order in which the conscious mind catches glimpses of the signals is the order in which they were received.

The probability that they come through in the wrong order is indicated by a study of the recorded scores. The receiver may make a better-than-average score, getting an average of nine correct results out of each 25 cards transmitted.

It is frequently observed that if the scoring were done not on the response to the signal transmitted at a given moment, but on a preceding or following signal, the average score would be much higher.

This means that the right signal was received but in some cases it was delayed in the subconscious or in other cases it came in advance. This lag or lead caused the receiver to call the right signal but at the wrong time, so it was credited to the improper transmitted signal.

## Effect Could Be Lost

"Obviously," stated Dr. Rhine, "the real effect of E. S. P. could easily be lost completely in such a displacement. Subjects have been tested for their awareness of being right in E. S. P. tests. But so far no subject has been able to show any consistent effective introspective grasp of what is taking place, of when E. S. P. occurs and whether it has worked with accuracy."

The writer observed a subject who did manifest, in an informal test, a strong certainty that he was right in two impressions he received. He had been droning in varied repetition "star, circle, plus, waves." Once, after calling "star", he sat up straight and called to the transmitter, two rooms distant, "and, by gosh, that one is a star."

Later he interrupted his calls to shout "Circle and you can set that one aside because that one is a circle." His score was somewhat above average, and on those two he was right. He explained "I had my eyes closed but when I called 'star' I saw part of the design of a star outlined in light, and later I saw the outline of a quarter of a circle."

If the mind could open an introspective window into the unconscious realm "every one possessing E. S. P. could demonstrate it with perfect efficiency, for no response would need be registered until there was a conscious certainty of the operation of the psi function."

"Consider what would happen," stated Dr. Rhine. "The effect would be to turn a searchlight on all the secrets of man and nature. If the mind, limited as it is now, can identify a specific card in a deck located a thousand miles away, what would prevent any knowledge, hidden anywhere in the world, from being reached by such an ability. The subject needs only to know when he is right . . .

"The consequences for world affairs would be literally colossal. War plans, and crafty designs of any kind, anywhere in the world could be watched and revealed. With such revelation it seems unlikely that war could ever occur again. There would be no advantage of surprise. Every secret weapon and scheming strategy would be subject to exposure. The nations could relax their suspicious fears of each other's machinations.

"Crime on any scale could hardly exist with its cloak of invisibility thus removed. Graft, exploitation and suppression could not continue if the dark plots of wicked men were to be laid bare . . .

"No lurking disease, no impending epidemic, no obscure source of danger to society could hide from the extrasensorial insight directed to discover it. The location of the hidden wealth of the world, mineral and non-mineral, could be charted. What problem of the universe could be left unsolved?"

This picture, Dr. Rhine insists, is conservative and the reality of the development when it comes will be far more fantastic than any prediction that can be made concerning it.

**Mental patients in Britain have lately been encouraged to take up art and results of the experiment were shown in London. Above, one of the art teachers inspects an entry.**


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ART AND ARTISTS

# Prudence Heward Show

By PAUL DUVAL

RECENTLY, when the Honorable Brooke Claxton opened the memorial exhibition of paintings by the late Prudence Heward, he declared: "She accomplished enough to make her a great painter." Perhaps this is an overstatement, but the exhibition organized by the National Gallery and now at the Toronto Art Gallery reveals Miss Heward as one of the most sensitive painters this country has known. Her life work, as presented in this exhibition, is truly remarkable for the earnestness and distinctive character which marked virtually everything she did.

Prudence Heward was born at Montreal in 1896 and died a year ago in Los Angeles. She was an exhibiting painter for twenty years, her first canvases being shown in 1926. As a student, she worked under that remarkable teacher, William Brymner, in Montreal. Later she studied in Paris under Charles Guérin, but it was undoubtedly Brymner's teachings which helped her most to release her highly personal talents.

A statement from one of William Brymner's lectures could well be applied to his student, Prudence Heward's painting: "Many can learn to copy nature. Few are artists who can make us see and feel with them. The real artist makes us see even the simplest things in a new light. . . . . Thus an artist, although he imitates nature and reproduces its external forms, must throw the light of his individual thought upon it, and this thought or emotion that he conveys by means of nature must be his own thought, or some emotion he has personally experienced, and his manner of expressing himself must be proper to himself." Miss Prudence Heward was one of those artists who "make us see and feel with them."

Although she undoubtedly owed much to Brymner's instruction, Prudence Heward was to develop in two decades of painting a highly personal and significant body of art. Laden with surface charms of color and texture, the underlying architecture of her design is usually wrought with intelligence and vigor. It is related that she approached her work with temerity, yet the completed canvases are strong and firm in concept and construction. Her best figure-pieces are unsurpassed in Canadian art for their compelling combination of solidity and charm.

## Landscapes First

Though Prudence Heward's most notable canvases were to be of women and children, her earliest efforts were in the field of landscape. The landscapes in the memorial exhibition transcribe the evolution of her style. "On the Grand Canal, Venice" a little, rather Morrice-like panel, predicts, with its warm, burnt color and light, caligraphic touch the richness of the canvases done toward the end of her life. The sonorous "Italian Town" is made notable by the same qualities. For some reason, Miss Heward chose to abandon the early charming harmonies which came so easily to her for a heavier and more considered art. Whether or not she deliberately decided to put herself through this period of disciplined classic design, the eventual combination of her innate color-sense and feeling for texture with conscious space arrangements was responsible for her finest canvases.

Many of the artist's landscapes, particularly the earlier ones, appear almost as exercises for her more ambitious figure-pieces. The best of these landscapes, though, have a sombre serenity and strength which commands respect. Such a painting is the obviously early, but undated, "Cagnes" with its flat pattern, stringently simplified masses and grave tones. Such creations, too, compose the series of landscapes which she did in 1932, 1933 and 1934, represented in the exhibition by works like the static "Rockfield," the rather heavily-patterned "Ontario Landscape," "Church at Athens" and "White Church." A revelation of Miss Heward's development as a painter may be had by going from these sketches to such a later landscape as the lushly pigmented "In Bermuda."

## Still-Lifes and Figures

Prudence Heward's evolution as a painter can also be studied in her still-lifes and figure pieces—by comparing, say, the stark, early "Still Life", with its harsh contours and smooth surface, to "Caladium" of 1945. Though her landscapes and still-lifes were sometimes notable, it was as a painter of people, especially women and children, that Prudence Heward realized her richest successes. *Enchanting* is a much misused word, but one which may be fairly applied to this artist's most characteristic works. She has created a world of visual enchantment which is both singular and memorable. Such portrayals as "Rosaire", "Dark Girl", "Little Girl with an Apple", "Rollande", "Farm House Window", and "Barbara Heward" take their place among the small number of important paintings of people by Canadian artists.

Prudence Heward painted children with special sensibility. No one has painted the pensive curiosity of childhood better. She frequently painted her nieces and other children. The delightful dark-skinned "Clytie" from R. S. McLaughlin's collection, is typical of her feeling for the character of childhood. The low positioning of the child's figure, with its feet touching the lower edge of the frame and the ample space above its head, emphasizes the diminutive stature of the subject. The picture's color itself composes a kind of childlike fantasy, which seems to reflect the young model's nature. The pink dress, the rich, dark, golden brown of the flesh, and the clear note struck by the clump of blue morning glories achieve a pristine sort of beauty.

Another of the artist's child portraits, "Barbara Heward," is as consummate a picture as any she painted.

There are many another of Prudence Heward's paintings which might be singled out if space permitted. However, the general nature of Miss Heward's work deserves mention. Prudence Heward's painted world is one of sad reflections. Her subjects look out of their frames wondering, and a little afraid. They strike one strongly as people living in a world which they cannot quite comprehend. Possibly one can read too much into the nature of an artist's themes, but the countenances of Miss Heward's models frequently belie the gaiety of her color.

The general character of Prudence Heward's work recalls J. F. Millet's words: "The gay side never shows itself to me. I don't know where it is. The gayest thing I know is the calm, the silence which is so sweet. . . . You will admit that it is always very dreamy, and a sad dream, though often very delicious."

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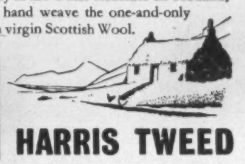

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# An Old Arctic Mystery Still Puzzles World

By HARWOOD STEELE

**One century ago this April there occurred one of exploration's greatest mysteries, concerning the Sir John Franklin Expedition to find a North-West Passage. The "Erebus" and "Terror" with hand-picked crews sailed from England in May, 1845. The scores of searches started three years later have cost millions of dollars and brought forth some, but not all the clues of the expedition's fate. The most important of those exciting searches and what they discovered are told here.**

THE greatest, most persistent and most dramatic mystery in all exploration celebrates its hundredth anniversary on April 25 this year.

It concerns the fate of the lost Franklin expedition.

From 1848 to the present time, a search of unparalleled magnitude and cost has been pressed with the utmost courage and determination with the object of finding out what really happened to this expedition.

Roughly fifty public and private enterprises, most of them by sea, some by land, a few by air, have taken part in the search to date. All but a dozen or so have been British and most of them financed by the British government at a cost of over £1,000,000; but Canada and many other countries have been publicly and privately concerned in the quest as well.

In 1845, the goal of another, even greater search seemed to be within comparatively easy reach. This goal was the completion of the ancient search for a North-West Passage by sea from Europe to Asia through the Arctic regions. British seamen had been supremely active in this search and since the Napoleonic Wars had conducted it so vigorously that by 1845 it only remained to discover the last section of the Passage, connecting known points on Barrow Strait and King William Island only 300 miles apart.

So the Admiralty set about organizing an expedition for this purpose. Choice for command fell on Sir John Franklin, whose previous work in exploring parts of the Passage evidently entitled him to that honor. Franklin was then 59 and had not taken part in Arctic activities for many years. In view of this and after events, it is not unfair to wonder whether the choice was wise. But all concerned believed he would quickly achieve a triumph. His followers were hand-picked from the Royal Navy, his ships, the *Erebus* and *Terror*, were proven Polar veterans, like their commander, and every known scientific device was at his disposal. The general confidence therefore was not surprising.

## All Then Well

The expedition, 125 strong, not counting five men sent home from Greenland, sailed from Greenhithe on May 19th, 1845. On June 26, it was sighted by a whaler in Baffin Bay. All was then going well.

Followed a silence which after nearly three years became sinister. In the spring of 1848, rising anxiety despatched the first search expeditions.

The problem was immense, especially to men dependent mainly on sailing vessels without wireless or other modern aids and with a still imperfect knowledge of Polar travel: to find two tiny ships or their survivors in a largely unexplored maze of islands strewn over an area almost as extensive as Soviet Russia, inhabited by only a few thousand Eskimos and dominated by Arctic conditions. Fortunately, the courses open to Franklin had been few. He must either have sailed into Lancaster Sound and Barrow Strait, thence west, south and west, or south-west, by limited channels; or he must have passed through Jones Sound and worked westward along the northern face of the Parry Islands—a very improbable alternative.

Only the most important of the early searches need be described here.

Captain Horatio Austin, R.N., and Captain William Penny, a whaler, who examined Barrow Strait in 1850, found the first trace of Franklin—a record revealing that he had probed Wellington Channel, then wintered at Beechey Island in 1845-46, but giving no indication of his further plans.

Captains Richard Collinson and Robert McClure, both of the Royal Navy, were sent in 1850 to search the Passage from its western entrance, Bering Strait. Their ships became permanently separated before reaching the strait. During a search lasting nearly three and a half years, Collinson thoroughly examined the waters around Victoria Island and came at one time within a few miles of the region which held many of the secrets he sought. McClure, an exceptionally dashing officer, pressed in ahead of him and spent his first winter off Princess Royal Islands, thereby making, in a sense, a North-West Passage, since Barrow Strait was only 30 miles away. Then he fought his way through enormous ice-fields along the western and northern coasts of Banks Island until hopelessly beset in what he aptly named "The Bay of God's Mercy".

In 1853, he was planning to abandon ship and make a desperate effort to reach the distant mainland by boat and sled when he was providentially saved by the arrival of an officer from Captain Henry Kellett's *Resolute*, one of a squadron sent from England to rescue him. A *Resolute* sled-party had found a record deposited on Melville Island by McClure and giving his position. McClure thankfully transferred his men to the *Resolute*. And in 1854, Admiral Sir Edward Belcher, commanding the squadron, decided to abandon most of his ships and take all hands back to England.

## Half the Reward

Collinson, McClure and Kellett were knighted and McClure was granted half the Admiralty's £20,000 reward for the discovery of a North-West Passage. Sixteen months after she was abandoned, the *Resolute* was sighted and boarded by an American whaler in Davis Strait. An Arctic "Flying Dutchman", she had drifted nearly a thousand miles through perilous seas.

Dr. John Rae of the Hudson's Bay Company reached England almost simultaneously with Belcher, McClure and Kellett. His news eclipsed theirs. That same year, after searching the mainland coast east of the Mackenzie River since 1848, he had met some Eskimos who said that about 1850 they had seen approximately 40 white men dragging a boat over the ice near King William Island and that later these men had died of starvation and exposure near Great Fish River. More; the Eskimos produced a decoration and some crested silverware of Franklin's, with other relics.

Rae was knighted and awarded £10,000. Next year, further relics and


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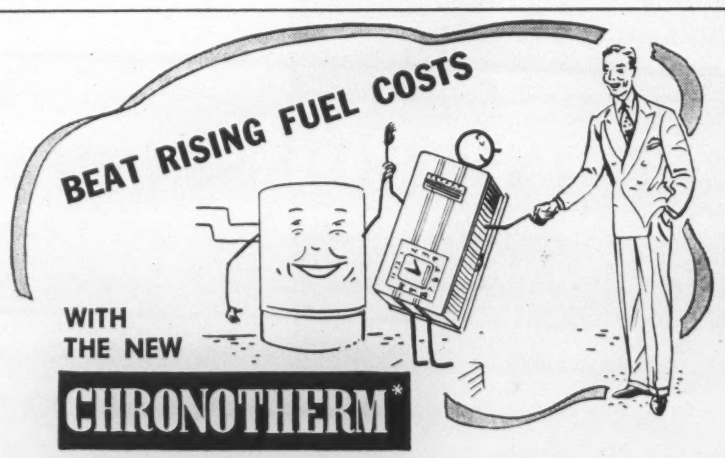


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Also that the public recognized the need for work of this kind was shown by the crowds who waited their turn for testing at the C.N.E. and Fall Fairs all over Ontario.

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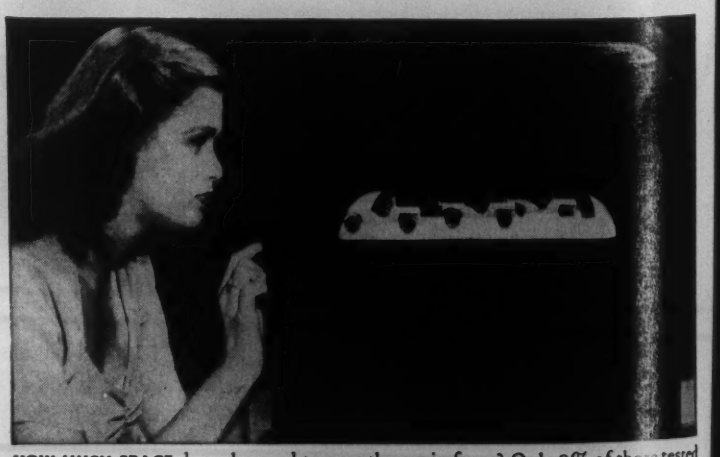

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**Experimental installation of fluorescent lighting has recently been completed in a coal mine in south-east England. Eight other mines are to be fitted with this lighting under direction of the National Coal Board with a view to installing it in all mines throughout the country.**

many skeletons were found by Messrs. Anderson and Stewart along Great Fish River.

Busy with the Crimean War and the Indian Mutiny and believing the whole expedition dead on or near that river, the British government now refused to undertake further searching. But Lady Franklin and her friends sent Captain (afterwards Sir) Francis McClintock in the *Fox* to examine the area around the mouth of Great Fish River.

They were terribly and amply repaid. McClintock collected more relics and verbal reports from the Eskimos. He found articles from the ships scattered along the west and south coasts of King William Island, and recovered skeletons on those coasts and on Great Fish River bringing the number of known dead up to nearly 50. Best and worst of all, he found a record left at Victory Point, on the island, eleven years before.

The record began with a statement by two officers, dated May 28, 1847, that they had left the ships on May 24 with six men and that all on board were well. Scribbled in the margin was this terrible addition:

"April 25th, 1848. H.M. Ships *Terror* and *Erebus* were deserted on 22nd April, five leagues N.N.W. of this, having been beset since 12th September, 1846. The officers and crews, consisting of 105 souls under the command of Captain F. R. M. Crozier, landed here in lat. 60°37'42" N., long. 98°41' W. Sir John Franklin died on the 11th June, 1847; and the total loss by deaths in the expedition has been to this date 9 officers and 15 men."

Crozier had added:

"Start on tomorrow 26th April 1848 for Back's Fish River."

## Pressure of Ice

The chief cause of the disaster was the constant pressure of ice against King William Island by currents from the north. This had hopelessly trapped the ships, just as similar pressure had trapped McClure's *Investigator*.

Beset so near previously known waters to the west, Franklin had obviously discovered a North-West Passage years before McClure. Our forefathers very properly gave him full credit for this. They also concluded that the men who deserted the ships had been weakened before they did so by want of food; that all these men died on or near Great Fish River; and that one ship was crushed in the ice soon afterwards, while the other survived nine years.

There are doubtful parts and huge gaps in this story, best set down as questions:

What killed Sir John Franklin, 8 other officers and 15 men prior to April 25, 1848?

What really weakened the rest before they abandoned ship?

What became of the 55-odd survivors not accounted for by skeletons?

Where was Franklin buried?

What happened to the ships' logs and other important papers?

Those who have continued sifting the mystery have sought answers to those questions by re-considering old, neglected clues and collecting new ones.

Here are the chief results:

In 1850, Captain Moore of the *Plover* was told by Eskimos that ships had been recently seen off Point Barrow. If these ships existed, they were almost certainly Franklin's.

Some years later, a hatch was picked up far west of King William Island. It must have come from one of Franklin's ships.

Hudson Bay Eskimos told searchers in the 1870's that they had encountered a tall, bearded, exceptionally strong white man and cared for him 25 years, till he died about 1869. He could only have been a Franklin survivor.

In 1878, the mate of an American whaler in Hudson Bay recovered some spoons bearing Franklin's crest, which Eskimos said they obtained from whites who died soon afterwards.

In the second decade of this century, V. Stefansson, the explorer, found so-called "blond Eskimos", believed by some to be descended from the men who deserted the *Erebus* and *Terror*.

Inspector F. H. French, of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, revealed last year that in crossing the Barren Lands west of Hudson Bay in 1917-18 he found a long series of mathematically aligned and spaced cairns, like guide-marks built by whites with compasses and sextants. The movements of every white except those of Franklin's expedition who could have entered the Barrens up to 1917 are known but none exactly traversed the "cairn-country". Hence, Franklin survivors probably built those cairns.

In 1926-28, 'flu killed hundreds of Eskimos.

In 1929, Inspector A. H. Joy, of the Mounted Police, found "a full 200 pounds of perfectly good canned meat, which was used with the utmost satisfaction," in a cache laid by Franklin searchers in 1852-53, proving that food prepared for explorers in those days was unlikely to go bad and cut their rations.

Scurvy had also been conquered by Franklin's day.

## Ship Under Water

In 1925-35, Major L. T. Burwash, employed by the Canadian government, heard that Eskimos were talking of a ship under water 75 miles south-east of the spot where the *Erebus* and *Terror* were deserted but on the other side of King William Island. This ship, if actually there, was almost certainly one of Franklin's. Burwash flew to the island to investigate the story and also an older rumor that a grave, and some cairns containing papers, all sealed with cement, were known to exist at Victory Point. Unfortunately, he discovered nothing vital.

These are some of the many fascinating possibilities suggested by this additional evidence:

Franklin and his mess-mates who died before April 25, 1848, may have succumbed to a 'flu epidemic which also weakened the expedition generally. With well-packed food, and Eskimos to help them hunt, famine should not have seriously affected them before they abandoned ship. Scurvy was unlikely. The 55-odd men unaccounted for may have returned to work the *Erebus* or *Terror* to the spot where the hatch was found, to Point Barrow or to the site of Burwash's wreck before she sank with all hands. Another possibility is that, from Great Fish River, most of the 55 tried to get to Hudson Bay—known to be visited by whalers—and that some actually got there. French's cairns may have contained important papers. Or perhaps they were meant to guide later rescue-parties to disabled comrades.

The cemented grave might well be Franklin's. The cairns at Victory Point might well contain the logs.

There the matter rests. But the searchers do not. In 1946, Margaret Oldenburg unsuccessfully sought the cemented grave by air. In 1947, L. A. Learmouth examined King William Island, without result. Sub-Inspector Larson, R.C.M.P., who twice made the North-West Passage during the war, still keeps a sharp lookout for clues. So does every white traveller through regions at all likely to hold them. Nor are the searchers likely to give up while so much of the tragic story remains concealed in Arctic mist.


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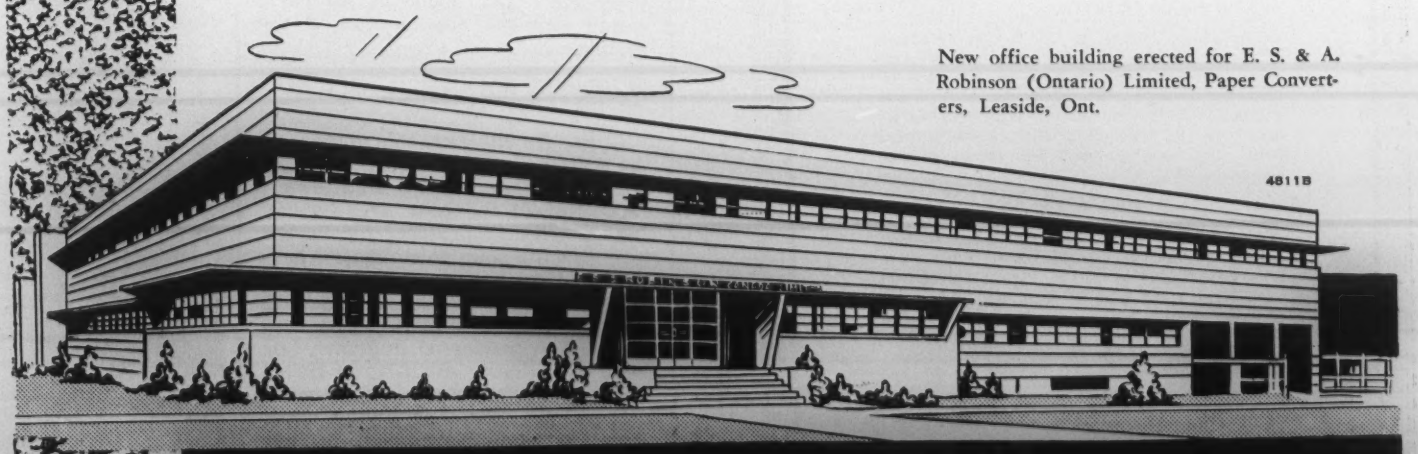

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# A Population Ministry For National Growth

By E. L. CHICANOT

**Immigration has never had much effect in building up Canada's population. We have lost just about all the in-come by out-go of persons to the U.S., the net increase being about the same as the natural increase alone. This writer thinks that a separate federal government ministry to encourage population growth would help stop these losses.**

**The department could press for more immigration and also study methods of discouraging the exodus of trained personnel.**

PERIODICALLY it is urged in the press and on public platform that Canada establish a portfolio of immigration in the cabinet, that a minister of the Crown head a special department concerning itself exclusively with the matter of introducing new people to this country. The suggestion has a great deal to commend it, but it does not go far enough.

Canada's actual problem is that of population, which is not the same thing, for immigration is only one phase of it. Concentrating on the siphoning of ready-made citizens into the Dominion overlooks other significant aspects of what is a very complex situation. Let us look towards the future of this country and its aspirations toward a population more in line with its potentialities of support. What Canada really needs is a vigorous, visionary and enthusiastic Minister of Population heading a department staffed by experts in the various phases of the problem.

The facts of the population situation in Canada are known to most citizens though they are seldom dwelt on sufficiently fully for adequate appreciation, and when they are there is a failure to logically associate them. What is required is the taking of an overall picture, integrating the various parts and envisaging the whole as the single, if many-phased problem it is.

Helicopter being used for observation by Britain's School of Artillery.

## Perplexity

When one scrutinizes every facet of the problem and attempts a summing up, it is impossible to avoid perplexity as to Canada's destiny in the matter of population. The demographers of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics predict a maximum population for Canada of 15,000,000 around 1990, surely an unsatisfactory goal. Yet this is based on Canada's past experience and we have no guarantee we will do as well in the future as we have in the past. Anticipating the attainment of even this insignificant figure may be optimistic.

Consider the matter of immigration. Relatively few Canadians, reading figures, seem to properly interpret them or realize that Canada's record in this regard is anything but satisfactory. Between 1851 and 1941 6,700,000 immigrants came to Canada. As accurately as can be estimated, in the same period 6,300,000 individuals left the country. The net gain in the movement of nearly a century was approximately 400,000, or only slightly larger than it would have been by natural increase if there had been no intake or outgo.

On the face of this we can scarcely consider that immigration in the past has been a very successful factor in building up Canada's population. Have we any greater assurance it will be more so in the future? Viewing circumstances and conditions at home and abroad can the most optimistic envisage the return of years like 1913 when nearly half a million newcomers poured enthusiastically into the country with its welcoming tracts of western prairie and parkland?

Canada has increased her population in the last century only by approximately the rate of natural increase. What hope can we entertain of this factor doing a job of similar extent in the future? What the birth-rate in Canada was ninety years ago we don't exactly know, but we need not have the slightest doubt it would dwarf that of the present day. The first official record we have is for the period 1921-25 when it was 17.1 per thousand of population, and it declined steadily and consistently to a figure of 10.7 per thousand in the period 1936-1940. It has temporarily risen, due to the epidemic of war marriages, but there isn't any doubt of an early slump and the continuation of the decline.

## Conserve Population

These are the two contributors to the building of Canadian population, neither of which has been overly successful in the past and holding out no brighter prospect for the future. But the point to emphasize here is that they are usually considered apart, as if unrelated, whereas, as having the same objective, they should be considered together. Instead of devoting exclusive attention to the matter of securing ready-made citizens, we should be giving equal attention to our own part in, our own responsibility and capacity for, building up and conserving population.

Our record in the past would show that for every individual we have managed to secure, absorb and assimilate we have lost a citizen, in most cases a native-born Canadian. Even at the present time they are leaving Canada at the rate of about 30,000 a year—students, university graduates, nurses, professional men and young executives. The usual public and official attitude towards this exodus is that it is inevitable and there is little practical that can be done about it. Granted it is the result of mixed causes, it would not be too much to hope that something more constructive might be done about it if it were the direct concern of a high government official with a department collecting, analyzing and integrating pertinent data.

The direct cause of the exodus would seem to be that the educational and cultural development of Canadian youth is in excess of the country's ability to absorb the product. The primary work of Canada has always been done by immigrants, but the sons and daughters of immigrants to a very substantial extent rise above such primary phases of the country's economy and aspire to white-collar jobs, the professions

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etc. The place of immigrants in Canadian life, in the broad conception, can only be taken by other immigrants, and the expansion of primary industry through the introduction of new workers necessarily makes for more places for native-born Canadians educated and trained for higher tasks. Immigration of the right kind of labor does not do Canadians out of jobs but creates more jobs for the native-born.

As to methods of encouraging population growth domestically little more can be done here than suggest a broad direction. A department of government making this its direct and sole concern could achieve a great deal by actively cooperating with other agencies working independently and indirectly towards this end. Federally we have such constructive measures as family allowances and mothers' allowances, but there is a great deal more that might be accomplished by a department concentrating on the single aim of building population. It would regard every phase of the Dominion's existence and economy from this angle.

The Dominion is losing every year more than fifty babies per thousand of live births — Canadian-conceived citizens who might, with certain provision, be brought on to valuable maturity. That it is not unreasonable to look for improvement in this regard is indicated in the fact that while the figure for Montreal is about 70 per thousand of live births in Greater Vancouver it is only 30. The Dominion's record in this respect, it is true, is showing a gratifyingly consistent improvement, but that there are original ways of tackling the problem is shown in the establishment of free maternity hospitalization by the province of Alberta. There is no reason why this and similar constructive means which might be devised should be so limited in scope.

Many families throughout the Dominion are, for one reason or another, childless and there is room here for a systematic campaign of publicity, propaganda and placement. Fully ten per cent of marriages in Canada are involuntarily sterile and insufficient publicity is given to the fact that in a great many of these cases the condition is remediable by medical treatment. Here is further opportunity for government effort, ensuring a further supply of future Canadian citizens and at the same time relieving the heartbreak from which many couples suffer.

## The Housing Problem

The current housing situation is unquestionably most seriously affecting the younger people in the population, on whom we depend for the future generation. But for difficulties besetting them in the matter of securing suitable accommodation many more might be having children or more children. At the present time many young couples are confined to a bare minimum of space and the cost of more expansive quarters largely precludes extension of families to proportions they might desire. People are too apt to shrug their shoulders and say that everything reasonably possible has been done about the housing situation. It is just one of those things.

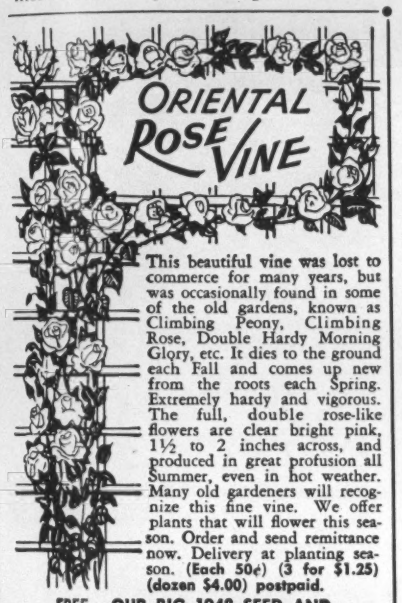
If other countries have concerned themselves with this aspect of housing, Canada also could if it were the pertinent business of one with supreme authority. In Sweden the state has assumed it to be its responsibility to care for families providing it with future citizens. The state, in its program of reforming housing conditions in the cities and towns, granting building loans at low rates of interest and providing at times outright subsidies, to provide low-cost housing, has gone out of its way to favor families with large numbers of children. In publicly subsidized apartment houses the rent decreases for each new child born in the family.

Merely a few basic suggestions have been made here of new means by which Canada might encourage population growth. Others will readily suggest themselves, but the need is for supreme direction, competent authority, and scientific coordination. It may appear a trifle fanciful and impractical at first to envisage a minister and department with fingers in so many pies, activating themselves in so many apparently alien fields, but the step is not without precedent.

## Population Planning

Britain faced with its own population problem, of a situation where deaths annually about equalled births (a condition Dominion demographers predict Canada will experience before the end of the century should the prevailing trend continue), appointed a Population Planning Board, incorporating medical men, scientists, sociologists, economists, and others, who coordinated their experience and efforts to its solution. Nor should we overlook the scientifically systematic efforts of Russia to build up its population domestically. In contrast to practically all the democratic countries facing declining populations within forseeable times, Russia's birthrate is thriving and it has been so stepped up by government effort that a population of about 250,000,000 is predicted for the U.S.S.R. in 1970, or an increase of about 65,000,000 in twenty-five years.

The more one thinks about it the more reasonable does the establishment of a Department of Population in Canada under a responsible minister become. We are not perhaps accustomed to thinking of population as probably Canada's most important problem, but it is the one to which the future greatness of this country is in all particulars tied. It is a complex problem requiring scientific approach. It is a many-phased problem requiring integration. It is a mammoth problem requiring a large, overall view. Regarded in this way it becomes logical to have a separate department of government focussing on nothing else but every possible means by which it can add valuable citizens to a small and slowly growing people.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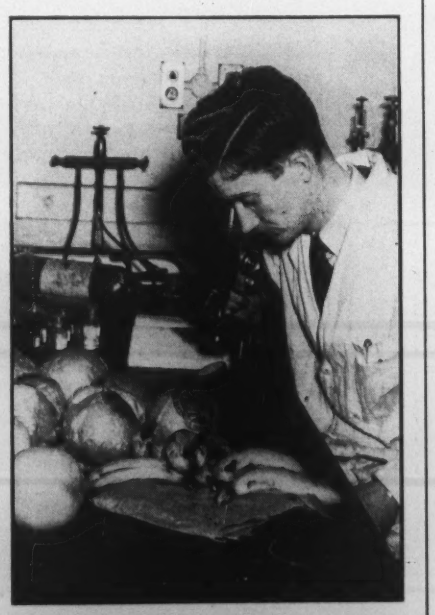

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Waterfront of the Town of York (now Toronto) in 1832
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# Point of Admiral Halsey's Story Is How U.S. Commanders Think

ADMIRAL HALSEY'S STORY—Halsey and Bryan—*McGraw-Hill*—$5.00.

MOST Canadians are already well aware that should the present "cold war" warm up to the point of combustion, they will be exceedingly closely associated, services and civilians alike, with the Americans. Most Canadians, too, through reading and personal and business associations, are pretty well convinced that they have a fairly sound knowledge of the American character and way of doing things. What they have not realized, perhaps, is that they have had very little contact with the professional sailors and soldiers with whom the U.S. over the years has amply provided itself, and who will inevitably be in command of any future operations which that country may undertake.

On two counts, therefore, both as a study of character as well as a vivid account of far-flung naval enterprise, "Admiral Halsey's Story" will be very interesting reading for many Canadians and required reading for some. The Admiral is not only an Annapolis man, but the son of an Annapolis man, and the traditions of that institution—the more rugged of which have been under some debate recently in the American magazine press—may rightly be expected to be reflected in his sayings and doings. But Halsey, the man, had an individual contribution of his own to make, both in colorful word and spectacular action. Even so, he does not like to be recalled as the commander who threatened to ride the white horse of the Emperor of Japan nor does he admire the sobriquet of "Bull" which he carefully explains as a typographical error. The Admiral's book, as a matter of fact, is devoted in its approach to the quenching of many such fireworks. But he does permit his biographer, or co-writer, to go on record in the introduction with the direct quote that "as a general rule, I never trust a fighting man who doesn't smoke or drink".

Admiral Halsey created a very favorable impression for candor and forthrightness of speech and opinion on a recent visit to Eastern Canada and those who would like to know the man, his background and experience, better, will welcome the book. It has structural defects, perhaps due to the collaboration technique (with Lt.-Commander J. Bryan, a former *S. E. Post* Associate Editor). While a certain amount of explanation of naval terms and logistics is necessary for the civilian reader, this interpolation has been overdone and extended to include the remarks and reports of other officers where they conflict with the Admiral's self-imposed modesty.

### Real People

Admiral Halsey has come in for his full share of criticism of his strategy and methods from both within and without his service and it is natural that his book will not afford much satisfaction to his detractors. Nevertheless, for a "report", as he himself describes it, from a senior commander in the recent war, it is an unusually refreshing and illuminating document. Both his superiors and subordinates emerge as persons rather than as disembodied ranks or appointments, and in general, it is the brilliance of narrative which serves to support and enliven the necessary inclusion of documents and correspondence. The overall picture of the vast and involved Pacific operations of the United States forces is presented with a pleasing clarity too often absent from other accounts.

The Admiral, as befits so energetic a character, is most definite in his opinions, if not prejudices. He is both vehement and passionate in his defence of Admiral Kimmel, the U.S. Naval commander at Pearl Harbor on the day of attack; there were other officers who were to suffer from the full force of his disapprobation. Yet Halsey also reveals himself as fully capable of loyalty, and of affection for the ships and men in which and with whom he served. He is thus able to make alive and interesting the story of his education and early service, as well as the broader sweep of great fleet actions leading up to the destruction of Japan. All in all, Admiral Halsey gives a most illuminating insight into the minds of the American superior commanders who were in charge during the second war; similar men will command if there is to be a third.

The book is excellently indexed and ornamented with both maps and photographs which lend ease and personality to the narrative. The frontispiece is a characteristically penetrating portrait by Karsh of Ottawa.

WILLA GIBBS

## Communists At Work

By THADDEUS KAY

THE TENDER MEN—by Willa Gibbs—*Clarke, Irwin*—$3.00.

There isn't much to say about the plot of this novel, because there isn't much of a plot. Ed Wicks, a pretty dumb farm boy, comes to San Francisco with a correspondence-school diploma certifying his qualification as a "foreign correspondent" and an ambition to be a reporter. The San Francisco papers aren't much impressed, and are overstaffed anyway, and Ed soon finds himself down to his last nickel. At that point Fichte, the Communist, finds Ed. The Party rehabilitates and educates Ed, only to have him meet and fall in love with Ann, who doesn't like Communists. Ed leaves the Party, but takes a good job the Party picks for him. When he fails to handle a big story the way they order him to handle it, the Party liquidates the too-late-awakened Ed, and presumably Ann as well.

Obviously such stuff as that must be hung on something if it's going to make a full-length novel, and in this case it's hung on a rather fresh and interesting study of a small segment of the Communist Party and the better type of Communist mind. We undertake this study through the eyes of the politically naive Ed, seeing him come to the realization first that Communists are not the bunch of bearded Bolshies his farmer father had described but a disciplined, always intelligent, often kindly group of hard-working men and women with a single and seemingly admirable goal. Up to that point the book could have been straight Party propaganda, but as Ed becomes politically more sophisticated he begins to understand more, to doubt more, to ask questions which on occasion cause even the resolute Fichte to falter.

In this last part of the book Ed sees the basic fallacies of the Communist ideal in so far as an American (or a Canadian) is concerned, fallacies by which even the Communists themselves appear to be taken in. Fichte feels a genuine sympathy for the downtrodden, and yet he is against anything which might help them if it would not at the same time further the Party's interests. Fichte sneers at patriotism and claims that the only valid allegiance is to an ideal. Ed points out that the Soviet Union has a flag. Fichte says that the day will come when he and his American comrades will take over America and run it properly. Ed asks him how he can be so sure that the Russians are going to let him run it.

Had she been writing the book today, Miss Gibbs might have pointed out that the vaunted campaign for a world-wide working-class solidarity appears to have evolved into old-fashioned Slavic imperialism, which will care as little for non-Slav Communists as it will for non-Slav capitalists. However, what she does say is valuable. Even if she hasn't much of a story, the book holds the reader's interest in the outcome of the simple plot. The ending, when Ed is executed by a Party firing squad on a California beach, may seem a bit incredible, but it's a fair bet that the author had some sort of a basis in fact on which to pattern it.

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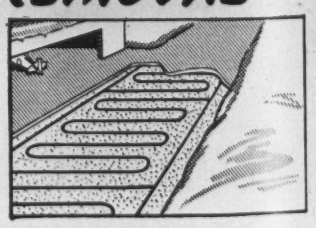

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THE BOOKSHELF

# Canadian Novelist Scores Success By Simply Telling a Good Story

By B. K. SANDWELL

THE AGING NYMPH—by A. J. Elliott—*Collins*—$3.00.

A. J. ELLIOTT

MR. ELLIOTT is a new Canadian novelist, though not entirely a new writer. He has contributed occasionally to SATURDAY NIGHT, and two or three of his sketches of Italian small-town life, written while he was a Y.M.C.A. officer with the Canadian troops, might easily have been preliminary sketches for this volume. For it is a study, and an amazingly "live" one, of an Italian *grande dame* and her family and surroundings at the moment when the Canadian advance reached her little mountain-top town, and there are Canadian fighting men in it though not in the foreground. Pleasantly devoid of any purpose more serious than that of depicting an extremely interesting and unusual character and milieu, "The Aging Nymph" may yet do its Canadian readers a lot of good, by giving them some understanding of the charm, dignity and responsibility of the old Italian aristocracy. That Mr. Elliott has achieved this without making his intruding Canadians look too crude and insular is evidence of a capacity for understanding many different kinds and grades of human nature.

The mechanism of the story is exceedingly slight—just an incident or two of the looting and contraband trading which are the inevitable accompaniment of military operations. The whole story is well behind the front lines, and deals with the definitely more pleasant aspects of war. But the characterization is exceedingly skilful. Mr. Elliott has acquired somehow — probably by writing a lot of unpublished novels—the dramatist's art of making every speech reveal character and manners, and yet sound completely natural. It is improbable that the average of wit among the Italians, even of high degree, is quite as good as among his personages, but that is an author's privilege; and from all accounts their conversation is probably not much less frank and racy than he makes it.

In addition to his powers of characterization, Mr. Elliott, who when not writing books is a dealer in old prints, has a very lively aesthetic sense, and obviously enjoyed the old-world beauties of the Italian scene. These he manages to describe with great economy of words while at the same time not neglecting the smells, the intense and scorching sunlight, the overcrowding, the noise and the laziness of Italian life. But all this is secondary. The book was written for the sole and simple purpose of telling an entertaining story. It must therefore be almost unique in Canadian fiction.

## A Critical Love

By ROBERT AYRE

THE MOMENT and Other Essays—by Virginia Woolf—*Oxford*—$3.00.

IT may be, as E. M. Forster said, that it is as a novelist Virginia Woolf will be judged. Nevertheless, she put so much of herself into her essays and sketches that we return to them with delight again and again, and it is a matter for rejoicing that in the seven years since her death two new collections have appeared: "The Death of the Moth," in 1942, and now, "The Moment" as well as the short stories under the title "A Haunted House"; and it is good news that we may look forward to at least one more volume.

"The Moment" amounts to a third in the "Common Reader" series, for its main theme is English literature, from Spenser to Spender, Virginia Woolf urges us—and she is very persuasive—to read the "Faery Queen," all through; she discusses the dilemma of Spender and the other poets of his generation, perched on the Leaning Tower, and she illuminates a dozen writers of the centuries between, writers as far apart in impulse and practice, no less than in time, as Congreve and Scott, Lewis Carroll and D. H. Lawrence.

"Critics, too, sometimes love literature creatively," she says in her essay on Edmund Gosse, and she might have been speaking of herself. Her criticism is acute, but it is always personal, never academic, and surely that is what we desire of criticism: the sharing of the experience of an individual, enlightened mind. Her criticism is not (like Gosse's) a criticism of the finished article, but of the article in the making. "The mind is being perpetually enlarged by the power of suggestion," she says, analyzing Spenser. Again, she might have been speaking of herself. As a critic she is still the novelist, writing creatively, touching the living tissue, discovering her subjects — never mere books, but the men and women who make them—at some quivering moment, all the more revealing because it is not dramatic. Her people come alive in these intimate glimpses; she makes us wish we could have known them in the flesh.

## Unfinished Work

In "The Moment" she goes farther afield than in "Common Reader," she catches up with Lawrence (though the essay ends suddenly and is obviously one of those she would not have considered finished); she studies modern English poetry and American fiction, she discusses the artist and politics, she has something to say about royalty. Opening a memorial exhibition, she talks about Roger Fry; she reviews books by Forster and Percy Lubbock on the novel, and makes happy excursions into the lives of Benjamin Robert Haydon, Harriette Wilson, Anne Thackeray, Emily Davies, Lady Augusta Stanley and Ellen Terry: she muses in fishing and takes a vivid trip to Spain.

She roams the past and faces up to the present. But above all she passes on to us her intense love of literature. Whatever people may have said about the highbrows of Bloomsbury, there is nothing precious in her attitude. But the love of literature must be a critical love. "We have got to teach ourselves to understand literature," she told the Workers' Educational Assembly in 1940. "We must become critics because in future we are not going to leave writing to be done for us by a small class of well-to-do young men who have only a pinch, a thimbleful, of experience to give us. We are going to add our own experience, to make our own contribution . . . Literature is common ground. It is not cut up into nations; there are no wars there. Let us trespass freely and fearlessly and find our way for ourselves. It is thus that English literature will survive the war and cross the gulf—if commoners and outsiders like ourselves make that country our own country, if we teach ourselves how to read and write, how to preserve, and how to create."

## FOR THE RECORD

**Religion in the Twentieth Century**, edited by Vergilius Ferm. (McLeod, $6.00) This book attempts within the space of about 450 pages to give a summary account of the origin, history and present value of some twenty-seven religious, or religous types, found in America today. Each article is written, as far as was possible, by some member of the faith described, and to that extent has a propaganda value. It is not easy to see what was the purpose of bringing together such an amount of miscellaneous material except for those, if such are to be found, who are unable to use any standard encyclopaedia. The chief purpose seems to have been to complete a library series which has already embraced such subjects as Sociology, Psychology and English political thought of the twentieth century.


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# Tailoring the Weather To Please Farmers

By WALLACE HUNT

**Droughts would be minimized, if not altogether eliminated, and devastating hurricanes and paralyzing snow storms diverted or reduced in intensity before they reached populous areas, if the experiments of today's rain and snow "makers" are carried successfully to their ultimate.**

**The weatherman would become the weather "maker" as well as forecaster in this amazing new tomorrow. But who would pay the damages if his calculations misfire and, for instance, the already over-moistured farms of southern Ontario got a deluge scheduled for parched southern Saskatchewan?**

"HELLO, weatherman? This is Farmer Brown at Bowmanville. It's been awful dry here since we seeded. Can you turn on a little rain?"

That's part of a telephone conversation which is quite within the realm of possibility in view of the tests in making "weather to order" which have been carried out during the past 18 months. The big-scale experiments are centred in the United States, but successful tests also have been completed in Canada and Australia.

The story briefly is this, as told to me by the man who first advanced the theory of man-made rain and snowstorms 20 years ago. He is Dr. Tor Bergeren of Sweden, one of the world's most noted meteorologists, who attended the last world weather conference in Toronto.

## "Seeding" for Rain

Visualized is the time when weather offices designate men to keep alerted, in times of drought, for likely looking clouds. "Soundings" would be taken with an observation balloon, and if the temperature is below freezing and the humidity is high, the formation is right for a shower. Up would zoom a plane and ordinary, kitchen-tap variety water would be sown in the clouds in much the same way as a farmer plants oats. The "seeding" would result in instant germination and an immediate downpour to satiate the water-thirsty crops.

The man-made weather, for a plane coming in to a landing, is seen as a "plow" to clear the atmosphere of fog as neatly as snow is swept from a street. Officials of a big ski meet, gloomily viewing wind-swept slopes as competitions are about to start, could order a fresh blanket of snow.

F. W. Riechelderfer, chief of the U.S. weather bureau, is taking it all seriously enough that he can visualize the bureau, "if it became a rain-making agency . . . . possibly being able in the remote future to end droughts, change climates to make 'every state a California' and destroy hurricanes."

These are a few of the possibilities which the imaginative visualize for the future. Now let's see what's actually happened so far. In a number of tests, with all conditions ideal, rain and snow falls have been man-produced over limited areas. The experts figure that one of the first practical applications—and not so far in the future either—will be the lifting of airport fogs.

## Dry Ice Old-Fashioned?

No one has yet disputed the American claim that Vincent J. Schaefer, a scientist employed by the General Electric Co. at Schenectady, N.Y., is the first person to prove Dr. Bergeren's theory. He is assistant to G. E.'s associate research director, Dr. Irving Langmuir, Nobel Prize winner. Working together the two men, unknown at the time to unsuspecting millions below, have "seeded" their own private rainfalls over eastern states. Though their earliest experiments from the air date back possibly less than two years, Dr. Langmuir already describes as "old-fashioned" the idea of "seeding" with dry ice or the chemical, silver iodide. He announced at a November meeting of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington that ordinary water is quite as effective.

In two tries, R. C. Jacobsen, a Dominion government meteorologist in Toronto, using his own private plane last winter succeeded once with dry ice in "milking" a snow cloud, and produced Canada's first man-made snowfall. He started it on the northern outskirts of the city, and followed it into the country for half an hour until night closed in. The fall was increasing in density up to the time he last saw it. He has now abandoned his experiments, because of the legal aspects involved. But more of that further on.

Methods have a long way to go to reach perfection, as is indicated by the experience some Iowa farmers had. They did succeed in turning on a shower to water their grain, but it backfired and merely sprinkled a nearby golf course.

The Schaefer-Langmuir pair teamed up with army and navy scientists in dropping 400 pounds of dry ice from B-17 bombers last fall to try and create rainfalls to stop the devastating forest fires which swept New England. But less than half an inch of rain fell, and the skeptics observed that it had come down where the rain-planes went and also where they didn't. The scientists aren't being sidetracked by what they regard as minor setbacks, as the fact still remains that light falls have been produced. If they can carry their tests forward to the point where widespread rain and snow storms can be turned on, they'll literally have the world by the tail.

Visualize what it would mean to Canada's wheat farmers, who during the severe prairie droughts of the 1930's saw their crops drop off from 545,000,000 bu. of wheat in 1928 to a mere 157,000,000 bu. at the depth of the drought in 1937.

Yet Canada stands idly by and officially ignores the rain experiments. Not so Australia where two scientists, using dry ice, produced rain which saturated about 25 square miles of sheep pasture—part of the same grazing lands which in a single year of drought had starved to death over 3,500,000 of the animals. They're out to lick searing summers which in a few short years dropped the wheat yield of one Aussie state from 70,000,000 to less than 15,000,000 bushels.

## No Push-Button

A cardinal point to remember is that these rain and snow falls cannot be turned on at will, by the mere pushing of a button so to speak. They're definitely impossible on a bright, clear, cloudless day. Clouds are the first essential and they must be the cumulus type, the billowy kind which often look like a distant range of snowy mountains. Dr. Langmuir says encouragingly that they are common in most parts of the U.S., particularly in the summer when rain is most needed. Necessary, too, is that the clouds include a vertical upward wind current of at least five miles an hour, according to Dr. Langmuir, and also a high water content and a thickness of several thousand feet. Much of this information can be determined in advance by the rain-maker, so he won't be constantly flitting off into the blue on abortive attempts.

Thus, the rain-maker would be no magic cure-all of weather problems. Farmers can't expect moisture within five minutes of the time they call the weatherman on a Monday morning. If conditions aren't ideal then, it might be Tuesday or Wednesday or even Thursday before the "met" men can produce the desired rain. But at least they can nurse the hope that moisture will be speeded up, so that it isn't necessary to wait until a month from Monday for nature to get around to turning on her faucets.

One of the most spectacular aspects of the rain-making tests are those in "hurricane busting," on which Langmuir and Schaefer also have embarked with the cooperation of the U.S. Navy. Still a theory is the belief that man can, by flying into a hurricane and dumping water or dry ice into the centre, diminish its fury.

## Diverting Storms

An additional theory is that by "seeding" clouds on the outer fringes of a devastating wind, its course can be altered to divert it from highly populated areas. Some scientists believe that if the theory is followed even one step further it will be possible to divert such paralyzing storms as the one which last winter buried New York City under several feet of snow, so that it would drop harmlessly in a nearby lake or sea.

The two hurricanes which lashed Florida and other southern states last fall caught the Navy and G. E. experimenters just a few weeks short of being ready to try their "hurricane busting" tests. These will have to wait until the next storm season, in the coming fall. Some idea of the herculean task involved in attempting to harness the violent blows was revealed by Dr. E. W. Hewson, a Dominion government weather scientist, when he said that the energy of an atomic bomb is just a pin prick compared with a hurricane's fury.

He told of a bright thought advanced two years ago after Hiroshimo, that an atomic bomb dropped into a violent storm might halt it. But he said the theory wasn't taken very seriously by meteorologists. He thought the chances were that if

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anything happened, it likely would be a worsening of the storm.

Before the rain-maker can turn his magic universally loose he's got a major obstacle to overcome which is legal rather than scientific. According to U.S. reports a group of farmers was taken to court by a second group because after a dry spell No. 1 group took to the air to promote some rain. No. 2 group contended that rain had been diverted which nature ultimately would have deposited on their land.

The legal aspects are truly baffling, and as explained earlier caused the abandonment of the only known Canadian attempt at tapping the reservoirs of the skies. It becomes increasingly apparent that, before experiments go very much further, special legislation will have to be implemented which will clearly define the rights and responsibilities of the rain and snow makers.

Also international commissions, similar to the one which regulates Canadian-U.S. waterways, will be required to make decisions as to whether, for instance, the U.S. weatherman can divert a snowstorm heading for Buffalo so it will drop its flakes on southern Ontario.

• •

## New York Mecca of Theatregoers

(*Continued from Page* 3)

"THE WINSLOW BOY"—at the Empire Theatre. This is a quite interesting English drama with a company of very competent English players. It is billed to come to Canada in June. Written by Terence Rattigan, who was responsible for "Oh Mistress Mine" which kept Lunt and Fontanne busy for a couple of seasons in New York, it captured the New York critics' award for the season's best foreign play.

The script is based on an incident that made newspaper headlines in England in 1913. It concerns a naval cadet, Ronnie Winslow (Michael Newell) who, in training, was discharged by the British Admiralty for stealing a 5-shilling postal note. The discharge was not sent directly to his family but placed in his hands and he roamed around the country before secretly returning home to, first of all, make contact with the family maid, Violet, (Betty Sinclair), who broke the news to the family.

Ronnie's father, Arthur Winslow (Alan Webb), aided largely by the boy's sister, Catherine (Valerie White) and Sir Robert Morton (Frank Allenby), determines to devote the rest of his days and his fortune to fighting the Admiralty because he is convinced of the innocence of his lad. How he achieves eventual success makes a most interesting theme in a play beautifully produced and impeccably acted.

### Terrific Impact

"A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE"—at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre. It is on the streetcar so named that the central character of this drama, Blanche Du Bois (Jessica Tandy) comes to the home of her married sister for a summer visit, that is if the two-roomed New Orleans dwelling in which the Kowalskis lived can be dignified by that term.

Blanche, penniless ex-school teacher with a soiled past, soon injects trouble into the lives of her sister, Stella Kowalski (Kim Hunter), and her husband, Stanley (Marlon Brando), who are deeply in love in spite of the sordid surroundings. The script has moments of poignant beauty. The emotional impact of the play on the beholder is "simply terrific." The New York Drama Critics' Circle voted it the best play of the 1947-48 season and it is quite reminiscent of the author's previous effort, "The Glass Menagerie", which also won the critics' award for the season of 1944-45. Incidentally, it is directed and produced by Elia Kazan who was awarded an Oscar for his production of the screen play "Gentleman's Agreement".

"FOR LOVE OR MONEY"—at Henry Miller's Theatre. This is a delightful and mirthful theatrical confection that is tickling the fancy of New Yorkers. It provides a light and perhaps trifling vehicle in which a rising new star, the captivating June Lockhart, is given wide opportunity to display her vivacious and merry personality. Mr. F. Hugh Herbert, who wrote the script of "Sitting Pretty", the movie that is still packing them in at the Roxy Theatre, provides the lines of this quite typical and risqué Broadway *divertissement*.

Miss Lockhart is as winsome a lass as Broadway has seen in many a year despite the fact that she has to play through the first act clad in a voluminous male bathrobe. John Loder's screen admirers get a chance to see him in person and when this humorous riot is moving at its fastest pace you see Janet Blake (June Lockhart) and Nita Havemeyer (Vicki Cummings, well known in the American theatre), with their claws out and no quarter, fighting for the heart and especially the hand of Preston Mitchell (John Loder). There you have them, Janet, a shrewd little minx, having to deal with a sophisticated Nita who duly warns her that she has "majored in bitchery". This is one you mustn't pass up.

"HIGH BUTTON SHOES"—at the Shubert Theatre. This is a lively musical featuring Phil Silvers and Nanette Fabray. Silvers, as an ex-burlesquer, has to project his not-so-funny lines with verve and energy to keep the play in motion. Miss Fabray, because of her daintiness and charm, seems a little out of place in all the hoopla. She will be remembered more favorably in "By Jupiter" and for taking over the main part and hoop-skirts in "Bloomer Girl". Joey Faye, Phil Silvers and Miss Fabray share honors in scenes that are reminiscent of good, old-fashioned burlesque.

Jerome Robbins should get a nod for a swell job of staging the madcap dances. The *décor* is of 1913 vintage and the riotous seaside ballet in the second act is alone well worth the price of admission and will long be remembered as one of Broadway's most insane and hilarious dancing gambols.

### "Intimate Review"

"ANGEL IN THE WINGS"—at the Coronet Theatre. Here is what the producers offer as a "new intimate musical review". It is more like an extended evening in a nightclub, minus the liquor, the elbows in your ribs, and the usual undressed or overdressed chorus. It features the dancing Hartmans, Paul and Grace, also an M.C. who has a very quiet but effective line of chatter, Hank Ladd. Hank reminded us in a way of Governor Dewey of New York State. He is about the same height, the same build, and sports the same precise little moustache.

The Hartmans are billed and widely known as the "Satirists of the Dance". It is impossible to describe the character of the humor which exudes from this expert pair of terpsichoreans and the fun the audience gets from their graceful but eccentric rhythms.

To recapitulate, here's the way we score New York plays. For music—"Oklahoma!", "Brigadoon", "Finian's Rainbow", "Allegro". For good rowdy fun—"Born Yesterday", and "For Love or Money". For a smash drama—"A Streetcar Named Desire". For good clean mirth—"Harvey". For an interesting, well-cast and well-acted drama—"The Winslow Boy." We have still to see two shows which we believe to be worth a visit—"Mister Roberts" and "The Heiress". There you are—take your choice.

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LONDON LETTER

# Capital Levy Might Be Repeated Despite Cripps' Reassurances

By P. O'D.

*London.*

SOMEONE has compared the Capital Levy in Sir Stafford Cripps' new budget to an effort to roast and eat half a chicken, while hoping that the other half will go on laying eggs. I have called it a "Capital Levy", as most people do, for that is what it really is, however it may be disguised as a special, non-recurring contribution based on investment income. Sir Stafford himself has admitted that it will have, in most cases, to be paid out of capital. If that isn't a Capital Levy, what is?

No one is very much reassured by the promise that this contribution is "once and for all". Sir Stafford may be, and no doubt is, perfectly sincere in making the promise, but these decisions are not left entirely to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Governments in a tight corner have a way of brushing aside such commitments. People recall that similar promises were made when income-tax was first imposed by Pitt. It has now been going on for about 140 years, and it certainly has not been getting any lighter.

Pitying the rich is an emotional luxury in which not very many of us have any real occasion to indulge. It is estimated that the present Capital Levy will affect only about 130,000 persons, most of whom can no doubt easily afford it. But there is the uncomfortable conviction that the Levy probably will recur, and on a much wider and more drastic scale. Mr. Dalton, Sir Stafford's predecessor as Chancellor, openly advocated it during the debate on the Budget—a proposal received with an enthusiasm that showed how heartily most Socialist M.P.'s approve of it. They are likely to have their way.

The effect of all this is to discourage investment. Instead of putting their capital to work, people are already showing an inclination to keep it as liquid as possible, to speculate with it for capital appreciation, and to spend it. This Budget has in fact been dubbed the "Promoter's Budget"—quick in and quick out, before the government has time to cut a slice off your capital. Not very patriotic perhaps, but financial human nature is very much like other human nature, and it is only human to prefer to spend your money yourself.

## Easter Weather

Whether or not it is a good thing to have a movable Easter, which shifts between dates over a month apart, one fortunate effect of the arrangement seems to be that it results in a high proportion of fine weather for the occasion. Perhaps the moon has something to do with it, for Easter varies according to the phases of the moon—the Sunday after the full moon after the vernal equinox, the ancient rule decrees.

Metereologists are apt to laugh at the supposed influence of the moon on the weather, but homespun weather-prophets, sailors and farmers and the sort of people who have learned about the weather by struggling against it, all swear by the moon. The amazing thing is how often they seem to be right—at least as often as the metereologists.

Most of the weather sages of my acquaintance predicted a fine Easter, for a variety of reasons which included the moon, the tides, the prevailing wind, and the behavior of their rheumatic legs. Though Easter came this year just about the time March might be deciding to go out like a lion, they could not have been more correct.

It was as fine an Easter holiday as any within living memory—four days of blazing sun and cloudless skies, with just that nip in the air which made one eager to be out and doing things. One didn't have to do them, fortunately, but it was nice to feel like that. And there were millions who poured out into the country to act on the beneficent impulse.

In spite of this admirable behavior of the capricious British climate, the old controversy about a fixed Easter has been revived. It always bobs up again whenever Easter comes very early, as it has this year, or very late. Earnest persons have once again pointed out the inconvenience and absurdity of having so important a festival fall anywhere between March 22 and April 25. One rather odd effect in this country, where the financial year begins on April 1, is that it may have two Easters in it or none at all—an important consideration in the case of a four-day national holiday, which Easter practically is.

Twenty years ago the House of Commons agreed to a motion for the third reading of a Bill making Easter the first Sunday after the second Saturday in April, thus falling always between the 9th and 15th of the month. The arrangement seems a sensible one, but it was made dependent on the agreement of the churches; and so far the churches have not agreed. There is no organized opposition, but nobody seems to care enough to make a real fuss about it. So we shall probably go on having the moon decide the date for us—and also the weather.

## Petrol Rationing

The long-expected statement on petrol rationing has at last been made. Motorists generally are not very much pleased with it, but it was probably too much to expect that they should be. The petrol isn't there, and the government has no intention of buying a ton more than it has to buy. All the Minister of Fuel and Power has done has been to make a redistribution which will allow a lot more cars to be put on the road.

Up to now, unless you could persuade your local Petroleum Officer that your car was a necessity to your business or home life—people living in the country, for instance, away from bus routes—you could not get any petrol for it. Now everyone will be able to get petrol, but the allowance is so small that a good many people will probably wonder whether it is worth the trouble and expense of taking out a licence.

To give you an idea of the scale, a car of over 20 h.p. is being allowed 31 gallons for six months—no, not weeks, months! Precious little motoring you can do on that. In recognition of the fact, however, and in mitigation of the austerity, the authorities are permitting cars to be licensed at half the regular fee. But if you should be one of those who have been getting supplies for special requirements, you will continue to pay the full tax—however little the extra supply may be. You can use your own judgment as to whether it is worth asking for it or not. In a good many cases it won't be.

As the concession—if it can really be so described—will result in a great many more cars on the road, at least in the holiday season, the authorities are hoping to get the petrol for them by cutting down on commercial users and on the special allowances. But the whole scheme is no more than an experiment.

If too much petrol is used, or if the black market is stirred to new and more profitable activity—as it no doubt will be — then the whole scheme will be scrapped. Motorists are being put on their honor. The assumption that they have any left in these days is a flattering but largely unfounded one.

## Five Millenaries

When it comes to anniversaries, there are few towns even in this country which can compete with St. Albans, in Hertfordshire, some 20 miles from London. This ancient town is now preparing to celebrate no less than five millenaries—those of three churches, including the cathedral, a market, and a school. All these were established by the great Abbot Wulsin, in whose honor and its own St. Albans is to stage an elaborate historical pageant next June.

Five millenaries in a row may seem quite an achievement in longevity, but St. Albans really sets little store by a mere thousand years. Does it not occupy the site of the Roman city of Verulamium? Was it not there that Alban, a Roman soldier, became in 303 the first Christian martyr in Britain? Was not the Benedictine Abbey of St. Albans founded in his honor in 793 by King Offa, also in expiation of having bumped off King Ethelbert of East Anglia?

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# An Outstanding Year in Metropolitan's History

"**1947** was one of the best years in the history of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

"The Company's financial position was excellent. In Canada and the United States more Metropolitan policyholders than ever before enjoyed the blessings of life insurance. Through investments, the Company played a bigger role than in any preceding year in helping to keep the wheels of industry turning . . . to provide jobs and homes . . . and to maintain high standards of living.

"However, the year was not without its problems. Insurance costs were higher because of lower interest rates, and because of the prevalent increase in the cost of goods and services."

President Leroy A. Lincoln reported these facts in his account of the Company's 1947 activities in a motion picture entitled "Pages From An Open Book." Here are some other important facts about 1947 presented by Mr. Lincoln:

—Payments to policyholders and beneficiaries totalled $671,000,000 — topping all records.

—More than 2,300,000 people bought Metropolitan policies during the year. The total of Metropolitan policyholders reached 32,384,000.

—At the year-end, policyholders owned a total of $37,250,000,000 of Metropolitan protection — the greatest amount in the Company's history.

—Metropolitan will pay in 1948 somewhat more in dividends to policyholders than in 1947, although there will be downward adjustments for certain classes of business.

Mr. Lincoln also reported that last year a committee representing all State Insurance Departments completed, as required by law, a periodic examination of Metropolitan. In their conclusions, the examiners reported:

> "The examination of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company indicates that it is in a sound financial condition."
>
> "Policy claims are paid promptly, and fair and equitable treatment has been accorded the policyholders."

Metropolitan's Annual Report for 1947, which is entitled "Pages From An Open Book," contains much additional information about the Company's operations. If you would like to have this booklet, fill in and mail the coupon below. A copy will be sent to you without charge.

## OBLIGATIONS AND ASSETS DECEMBER 31, 1947

### OBLIGATIONS TO POLICYHOLDERS, BENEFICIARIES, AND OTHERS

| | |
|---|---|
| **Policy Reserves Required by Law** — This amount, together with future premiums and reserve interest, is required to assure payment of all future policy benefits. | $7,333,537,964.00 |
| **Reserved for Future Payment Under Supplementary Contracts** — Policy proceeds from death claims, matured endowments, and other payments which beneficiaries and policyholders have left with the Company to be paid out to them in future years. | 373,634,251.42 |
| **Policyholders' Dividends Left on Deposit** | 64,747,219.00 |
| **Reserved for Dividends to Policyholders** — Set aside for payment in 1948 to those policyholders eligible to receive them. | 141,215,117.00 |
| **Policy Claims Currently Outstanding** — Claims in process of settlement, and estimated claims that have occurred but have not yet been reported to the Company. | 34,085,580.50 |
| **Other Policy Obligations** — Including premiums received in advance, etc. | 33,550,654.32 |
| **Taxes Accrued** — Including estimated amount of taxes payable in 1948 on the business of 1947. | 17,704,521.00 |
| **Contingency Reserve for Mortgage Loans** | 21,000,000.00 |
| **All Other Obligations** | 29,389,937.42 |
| *TOTAL OBLIGATIONS* | $8,048,865,244.66 |

### ASSETS WHICH ASSURE FULFILMENT OF OBLIGATIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Government Securities** | | $3,876,921,624.32 |
| U.S. Government | $3,632,510,803.00 | |
| Canadian Government | 244,410,821.32 | |
| **Other Bonds** | | 2,710,589,958.79 |
| Provincial and Municipal | $ 74,399,932.15 | |
| Railroad | 510,214,387.99 | |
| Public Utility | 975,681,105.50 | |
| Industrial and Miscellaneous | 1,150,294,533.15 | |
| **Stocks** — All but $1,565,382.00 are Preferred or Guaranteed. | | 105,388,903.00 |
| **First Mortgage Loans on Real Estate** | | 964,666,721.19 |
| Farms | $ 86,117,937.09 | |
| Other Property | 878,548,784.10 | |
| **Loans on Policies** — Made to policyholders on the security of their policies. | | 343,301,733.81 |
| **Real Estate** (After decrease by adjustment of $25,000,000 in the aggregate) | | 208,752,510.79 |
| Housing projects and other real estate acquired for investment | $ 139,090,580.35 | |
| Properties for Company use | 35,015,955.07 | |
| Acquired in satisfaction of mortgage indebtedness (of which $19,098,579.96 is under contract of sale) | 59,645,975.37 | |
| **Cash and Bank Deposits** | | 156,258,124.20 |
| **Premiums, Deferred and in Course of Collection** | | 124,836,913.79 |
| **Accrued Interest, Rents, etc.** | | 57,706,111.28 |
| *TOTAL ASSETS TO MEET OBLIGATIONS* | | $8,548,422,601.17 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Thus, Assets exceed Obligations by | $499,557,356.51 |
| This safety fund is made up of: | |
| Special Surplus Funds | $ 72,281,000.00 |
| Unassigned Funds (Surplus) | $427,276,356.51 |

This fund, representing about 6 per cent of the obligations, serves as a cushion against possible unfavorable experience and gives extra assurance that all policy benefits will be paid in full as they fall due.

NOTE — Assets carried at $412,328,264.37 in the above statement are deposited with various public officials under requirements of law or regulatory authority.

## SOME FACTS ABOUT METROPOLITAN'S OPERATIONS IN CANADA

***These highlights of the Company's business in the Dominion during 1947, our 75th year in Canada, will be of particular interest to Metropolitan's Canadian policyholders and their beneficiaries.***

### Life Insurance in Force

In 1947, Canadians bought $209,634,649 of new Life insurance protection in the Metropolitan, bringing the total of the Company's Life insurance in force in Canada to over 2 billion dollars at the year-end. This amount — $2,083,391,707 — is made up of 58% Ordinary, 31% Industrial and 11% Group.

### Payments to Policyholders and Beneficiaries

Metropolitan paid in 1947 to its Canadian policyholders and their beneficiaries $36,222,913 in death claims, matured endowments, dividends and other payments. Of this, 69% was paid to living policyholders.

**The total amount the Metropolitan has paid to Canadians since it entered Canada in 1872, plus the amount now invested in Canada, exceeds the total premiums received from Canadians by more than $306,000,000.**

### Total Investments in Canada

The Company's total investments in Canada amounted to $480,303,977 at the end of 1947. Of this amount, 51% is in Dominion of Canada Bonds. Since the close of the war Metropolitan's new investments have gone increasingly to help meet the needs of industry and the community, just as they were doing before the war.

### Health and Welfare Work

During 1947, a total of 234,835 nursing visits was made to those insured under Metropolitan Industrial, Intermediate, and Group policies in Canada; over 1½ million pamphlets on health and safety were distributed, and the Company took part in 54 Canadian health campaigns.

## Metropolitan Life Insurance Company

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RECORD REVIEW

# Beethoven Violin Concerto

By JOHN L. WATSON

BEETHOVEN, a fairly prolific composer, wrote only one violin concerto but with typical thoroughness he made it a very good one. From the first ominous tap of the kettledrum to the last triumphant shout of the full orchestra it is a marvel of architectural symmetry, technical complexity and inspired melody.

The D Major Concerto was written in 1806 when Beethoven's beloved Vienna was occupied by the soldiers of Napoleon Bonaparte. It was the year of the Fourth Symphony and the Fourth Piano Concerto, with Beethoven just approaching the apex of his tremendous creative powers and still able to hear his music as it came from his pen. The work is not a virtuoso piece in the obvious sense of the word, yet it occupies the same place in the repertoire of the violinist as the role of Hamlet does in the career of the tragic actor. The Concerto has been recorded a good many times but I doubt that any pressing can equal, on all counts, the new Columbia set, made by Joseph Szigeti with the New York Philharmonic under Bruno Walter (D 194). Mr. Szigeti's taut, beautifully modulated playing is matched by Dr. Walter's authentic reading and the brilliant performance of the orchestra. The recording is first-rate.

•

Operatic duets of the boy-meets-girl variety are plentiful and often performed. The man-to-man encounters are less frequently met with and we are apt to forget that they constitute some of the pleasantest passages in Italian opera. Victor have set out to remind us of this in their new album of "Italian Operatic Duets", sung by Jan Peerce and Leonard Warren (DM 1156). They have chosen the delightfully inconsequential "O Mimi, tu più non tornai" from "La Bohème" — in which Rodolfo and Marcello bewail, at first with sarcasm and later with genuine sorrow, the treachery of their respective mistresses—and two duets from "La Forza del Destino": "Solenne in quest' ora" and "Invano Alvaro", the latter a tremendously exciting passage-at-arms which reveals Verdi at his best as a musical dramatist. The singing is lively and the recording excellent. The orchestra—for which the producers, in a frenzy of extravagance, have provided not one but two conductors—is especially good. The words of the Verdi duets are printed, in English and Italian, on the inside of the album, a practice which ought to be more general with recordings of opera and lieder.

### Better Than Benny's

One of the most delightful of Mozart's innumerable chamber works is the Quintet in A Major for Clarinet and Strings, not often heard in public performance and therefore a useful item to have on records. Some years ago the celebrated clarinetist, Maestro Benny Goodman, tried his hand at it, with dubious results; now Columbia have issued a new pressing by Reginald Kell and the Philharmonia Quartet (D 196). This recording was made in England and, in some respects, it is as good as the other was unsatisfactory. Mr. Kell is a brilliant performer; his tone is warm and fluent with none of the acidity that characterizes Goodman's jazz-inspired style. The quartet performs admirably, too. The recording, however, is blotchy and the scratch level, especially on sides 1 and 2, is inexcusably high.

•

Alexander Glazounov, the prodigious musical manufacturer who was a going concern at sixteen and a tired, disillusioned old man when he died at 71, belonged to that rather bewildered generation of Russians who flourished after the decline of the great Nationalist school and only just lived to witness the revival of Russian music under Prokofieff and Shostakovitch. Suspended between romanticism and "modernism" the composers of the period, however prolific, produced little of permanent value. Their music, sound in craftsmanship and often brilliant in orchestration, lacked vitality because it was too deeply rooted in the soil of a dying past and unaware of the meaning of the future. Glazounov was a complacent Tchaikowsky with a predilection for German romanticism. His ballet "Raymonda", composed in 1898 for the choreographer Marius Petipa, is an epic of Mediaeval chivalry and Victorian vapors. It is the romantic ballet, *par excellence*, complex and fanciful in plot, elaborate in décor and based on music that is tuneful, colorful and pleasant but, on the whole, rather commonplace. The new Victor recording of excerpts from "Raymonda", played by the Boston "Pops" Orchestra under Arthur Fiedler (DM 1133), is an excellent one. The performance is spirited and the recording is clear, lucid and resonant.

•

There is probably no other piano concerto in all the literature of music so loaded with fretwork and gingerbread and so devoid of meaning as either of the two written by Franz Liszt. Of the pair, the first, in E-flat Major, is perhaps the less offensive because from time to time there does appear the odd fragment of recognizable melody. The E-flat Concerto, composed in Weimar sometime prior to 1855, appears to have been written chiefly to enhance the already fabulous reputation of the great virtuoso. When it was first performed in Vienna it was roasted by the critics, not so much for its obvious weaknesses as for the fact that it employed a triangle as a principal instrument in the scherzo movement!

What contemporary pianist is better equipped, by temperament and technique, to perform a work like this than Artur Rubinstein, who is something of a Lisztian character himself? In the latest recorded release (Victor DM 1144) he bangs away with tremendous *élan* while the Dallas Symphony, under Antal Dorati, provides a modest, self-effacing backdrop. Both performance and recording are better than the music deserves.

•

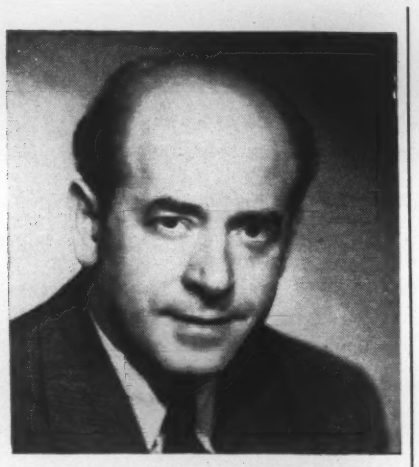
A half-dozen of Cole Porter's most popular, and most tuneful melodies have been dressed in new finery by Andre Kostelanetz and his orchestra in the new Columbia album D 201. Mr. Kostelanetz' syrupy arrangements will no doubt be widely appreciated along the more sentimental fringes of Tin Pan Alley.

•

Victor have announced the publication of a new series of recordings of Jewish music, both sacred and secular. The principal item is an album of Cantorial Chants sung by Moshe Kusevitzky, formerly Cantor in the Tlomaski Synagogue in Warsaw (Album S 52). Single records include folk songs sung in Hebrew by Saul Meisels and burlesques by the comedian Mickey Katz.

•

With all respect to our own record manufacturers, it is a pleasure to see the familiar "Telefunken" label back on the shelves again. "Telefunken", which used to be made in Germany and were just about the best records obtainable, are now manufactured in Switzerland under Swiss patents and give every promise of regaining their old leadership.

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Set D177 — R. Strauss: Death and Transfiguration ..... $4.75
Set D156 — Respighi: The Pines of Rome ..... $4.75
Set D131 — Lalo: Symphonie Espagnole for Violin & Orchestra, Op. 21 (with Nathan Milstein, violin) ..... $4.75
Set D174 — Brahms: Symphony No. 3 In F Major, Op. 90 ..... $6.00
Set D163 — Franck: Symphony in D Minor ..... $7.25
Set D188 — Tchaikovsky: Serenade In C Major For String Orchestra ..... $4.75
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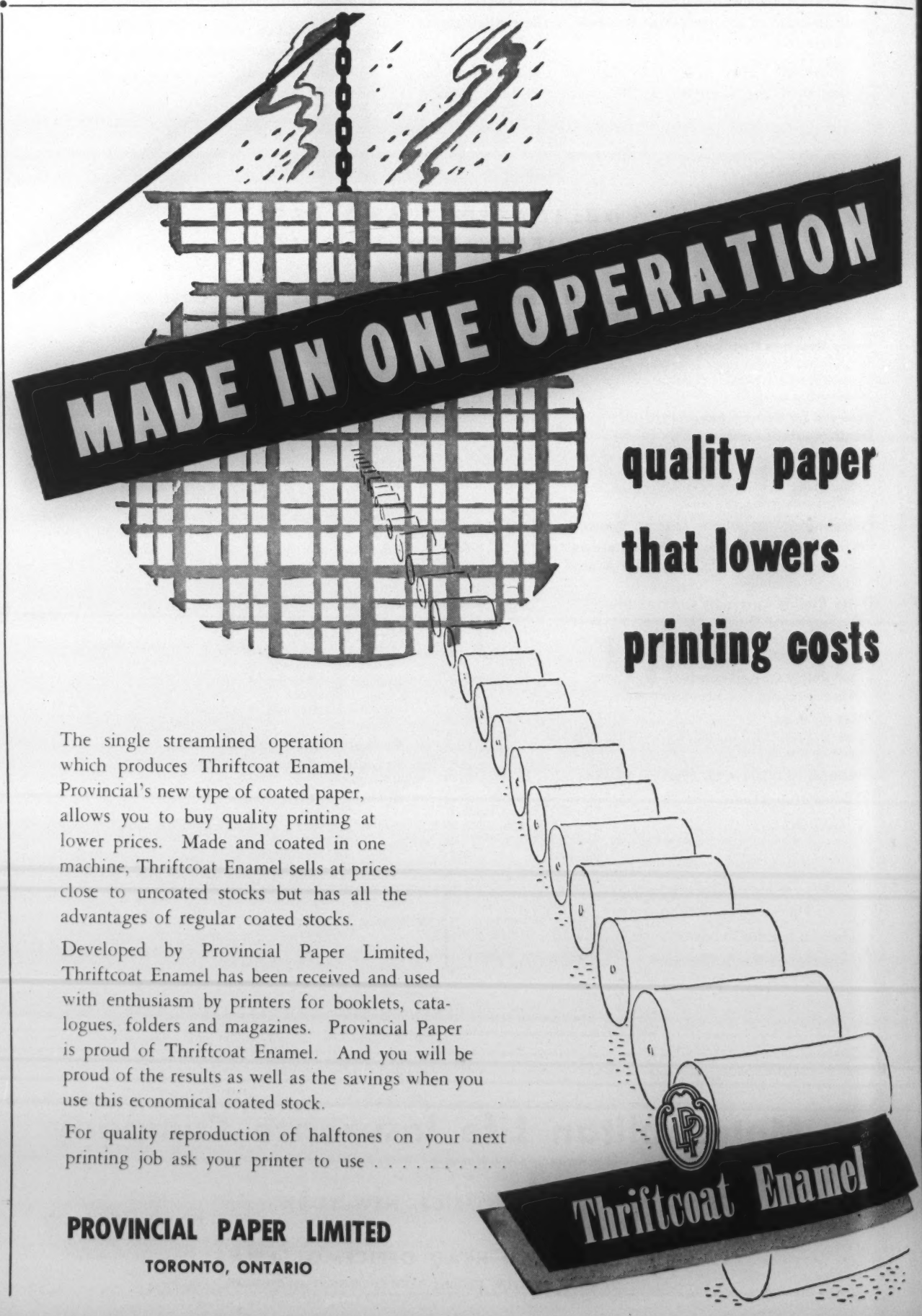


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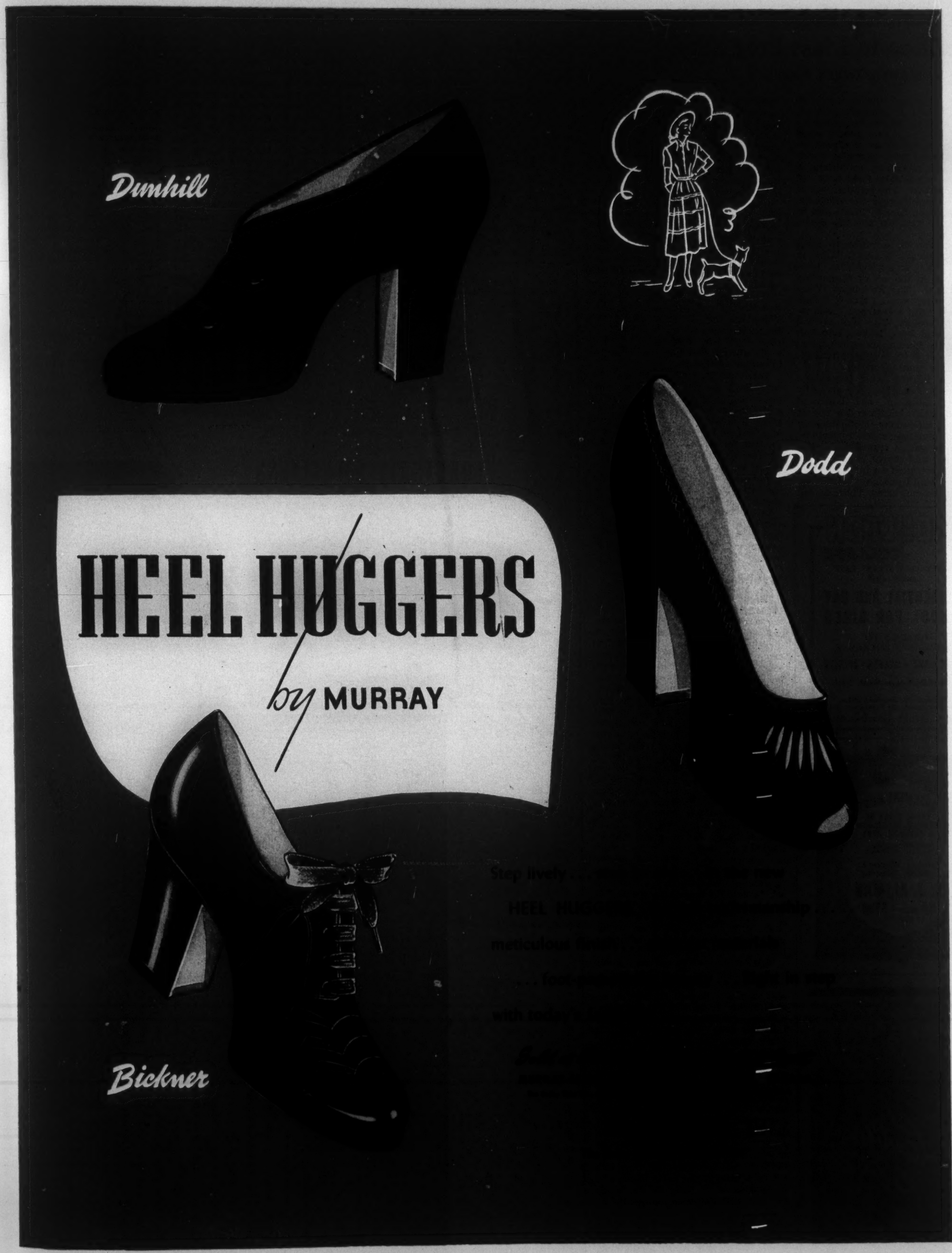
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FILM AND THEATRE

# The Familiar Policy of Hollywood: Sacrifice to Mass Propriety

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

"THE Voice of the Turtle" set Hollywood a familiar problem. It was a highly successful Broadway comedy, so the movie public would naturally expect to see it filmed. Its plot concerned itself exclusively with a week-end seduction; so filming it in any recognizable form was out of the question. The solution was of course as familiar as the dilemma. The producers filmed "The Voice of the Turtle" and left out the seduction.

This policy of sacrifice to mass propriety always seems to work in reverse. The screen version loses moral tone in the act of attempting to acquire it. The Broadway "Voice of the Turtle" was an honest friendly comedy, with an attractive and intelligent heroine. The film version stumbles and leers, leaving one feeling that the heroine owes her salvation, such as it is, to sheer nitwittedness rather than to virtue.

Eleanor Parker, who plays here the heroine created on the stage by Margaret Sullavan, has borrowed Miss Sullavan's hairdo and a few of her vocal inflections. Unfortunately Margaret Sullavan's other qualities are not so easily transferable. For intelligence and charm, Eleanor Parker has substituted an infantile cuteness that would probably embarrass little Margaret O'Brien. There is, for instance, her peculiar way of preparing a bed for the night (beds, occupied or unoccupied but always occupied singly, are the chief comedy props of the screen "Voice of the Turtle"). Miss Parker doesn't do anything so simple as remove and fold the satin counterpane. She falls on it and wrestles it as though it were a live tuna. Her behavior towards her young man (Ronald Reagan) seemed to have even less relationship to rational behavior. Altogether she seemed the type of girl who would drive the most ardent mating sergeant off to spend his week-end by himself in the movies.

What would have happened, one wonders, if the producers of "The Voice of the Turtle" had braced themselves to turn out a screen version that was reasonably faithful to the theme, characters and general intention of the original?

There would have been undoubtedly loud outcries from the usual pressure-groups. The Parent-Teachers' Association would probably have given it a black mark, the Legion of Decency would have reared and bristled, the faithful would have been forbidden to attend, and in the corridors of Hollywood top executives would have scuttled about crying like the Little Red Hen that the sky was about to fall.

In the fairy-tale of course the sky didn't fall. There's a good chance that an intelligent and candid screen version of "The Voice of the Turtle" wouldn't have brought it down either.

## Psychiatry Again

"High Wall", featuring Robert Taylor, is a rather belated entry in the crime-psychiatric field. The hero, a flyer who has suffered a head injury in Burma, returns home to find his wife has been unfaithful and blacks out just an instant too soon to be certain whether or not he was the one who strangled her to death. So he goes to the Psychiatric Hospital where he is treated by an awesomely competent lady-psychiatrist (Audrey Trotter). He refuses to take the sodium pentathol or truth-telling treatment which would clear up his mental blocks, and so gives no end of trouble to his psychiatrist, who regards him as a case rather than a personality. It isn't long however before she comes round to regarding him warmly as a personality rather than a case, and I'm afraid her behavior from this point on would disbar her from any respectable psychiatric circles except the ones that operate on the screen. (For instance, she takes both medical and criminal law in her own hands and hops up the suspected criminal, Herbert Marshall, with her favorite drug, wringing a confession from him before he can even call a lawyer.)

"High Wall" is run off very glibly and smoothly and at a high rate of speed. Success in productions of this sort depends largely on the director's ability to deprive you temporarily of your more respectable faculties and keep the action always a jump ahead of reasonable skepticism. On these terms it is a fairly successful film.

•

Yvonne de Carlo appears to have established herself in a very fine rut. She is Hollywood's Grade B Enchantress. This position, though it doesn't carry the highest prestige, keeps her fully employed, in spectacular clothes. In "Black Bart" she plays the role of Lola Montez who sets out on a tour of the early West. She is appropriately hung in diamonds for the trip and this naturally attracts the interest of Black Bart (Dan Duryea), a period stage-coach robber. The story from this point on could hardly be more predictable, and most adults would be wise to avoid it. Yvonne de Carlo's acting and dancing are rather rudimentary, but it is impossible not to enjoy her to some extent, if only because of her lively bounce and willingness to please.

## SWIFT REVIEW

SITTING PRETTY. Clifton Webb as a resident baby-sitter who hates babies is largely responsible for the success of this suburban comedy. With Maureen O'Hara, Robert Young.

NAKED CITY. Mark Hellinger's last film, though not quite the definitive study of New York that it sets out to be, at least presents an energetic murder-mystery and manhunt. With Barry Fitzgerald.

THREE DARING DAUGHTERS. Producer Pasternak's familiar formula—lots of music, laughter and bouncing youth—falls a little flat in his latest production, in spite of the presence of Jose Iturbi, who bounces quite as energetically as the three daring daughters.

# A Marvellous Time for Psychiatrists

By LUCY VAN GOGH

THE four characters in "The Glass Menagerie" have no names, nothing but family relationships. The character described as "the son" comes on at the opening and tells us that the main play is his recollections of what happened immediately before he left home in the early 'thirties. He knows nothing, and we know nothing, of what happened to "the mother" and "the daughter" after he left. What happened immediately before he left was practically nothing —a mere incident which they probably forgot before a year had elapsed. But it is remembered by "the son" because of the poignant light that it sheds on the family situation; and for all that it is a bit painful to sit through, it is likely to be remembered by the audience. It is at the Royal Alex. this week and next.

The father has deserted the family some years earlier. The mother (played with exquisite skill by Helen MacKellar) is a feather-brained but doggedly courageous, nagging but at times charming, Southerner who talks of the "planters" of the society in which she spent her youth. The son has inherited the father's restlessness and hates his commonplace job in a St. Louis warehouse. The daughter is club-footed and desperately shy, takes refuge in a world of imagination in which her collection of glass animals plays a leading part, and takes flight from reality whenever it puts any pressure on her. The mother can see no prospect of security except in getting her married.

The only action — and it occupies only a fraction of the second of the two "parts"— is when the son brings home to dinner a friend who turns

(Continued on page 48)

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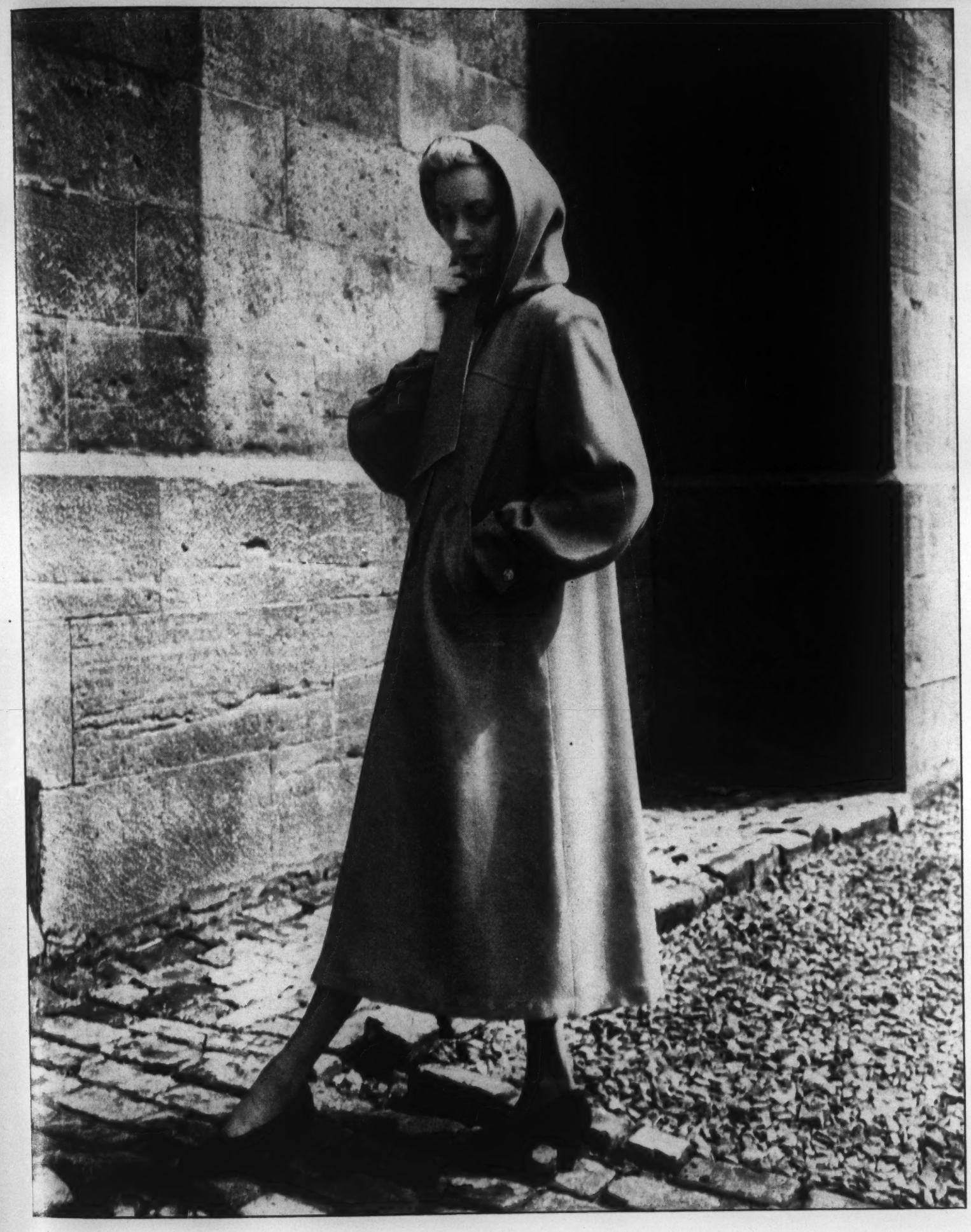

☆

# WORLD OF WOMEN

☆

☆

IT'S trite, but this April of ours,
Exerting her pluvial powers,
Sets forces in motion
Of which we've no notion,
Except that the product is flowers.

(But as for a knowledge of botany,
I hasten to state I ain't got any;
I took it in class
But neglected to pass,
For I found it the sheerest monotony.)

So let us give thanks when it's raining,
For flowers are most entertaining:
To groan when it's foggy
Or moan when it's soggy
Is proof that you're lacking in braining.

For April, though skies are funereal,
Achieves a New Look that's ethereal—
While I use, instead,
Scissors, needle and thread,
And several yards of material!

J. E. P.

## Probabilities: Sun and Showers

☆

Today's raincoat, happily released from its former chrysalis of grim functionalism, has become a costume that retains its winning manners in fair weather or in downpour. Lou Ritchie, young Canadian designer, gives this rainy-day coat of wool and cotton gabardine, a fitted shoulder yoke, straight-hanging fullness and sleeves ending in cuffs. Detachable hood is tied under the chin.

BERNICE COFFEY, *Editor*

ACHIEVEMENTS

# The Lady with the Little Black Bag

By INA DARLING

FULL tribute must be paid to Lady Aberdeen, wife of the Governor General in 1898, for the forceful part she played in bringing to fruition a plan to commemorate, in Canada, the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. For long, her Ladyship had toyed with an idea of some sort of nursing service similar to the District Nursing movement, just then begun by Florence Nightingale in Britain. It was a strange coincidence, that just about this time, there should reach her Ladyship from residents of Canada's West coast, a request for nursing aid, for the sick among the new Western settlers, and that from Halifax on the East Coast should go to Ottawa a letter requesting a District Nursing service.

Medical groups, however, throughout the Dominion, were almost solidly against any such idea. The reason for this opposition came from the false impression which they had that partly trained women were to be sent to care for the sick, without benefit of medical direction. This impression was corrected, however, with the explanation that only fully trained nurses were to be used, working under doctors.

Perhaps any one less gifted with cheerful determination and perseverance, might never have scaled such a wall of opposition. Lady Aberdeen did win, however, and in '98 a charter was granted for the Victorian Order Nurses of Canada. Now in 1948, the Golden Jubilee year of a strong National Order has been reached, and a celebration is anticipated at Ottawa, in which all branches will join, the record of which will be filed, beside others, in the National Office.

The value of an organization such as this may only be determined by its usefulness. Nova Scotians, for example, are justly proud to claim active relationship with V.O.N. headquarters in Ottawa, for the full quota of years, and to know that their small, sea-girt Province now has the distinction of supporting the second greatest number of branches across the Dominion.

Figures given by District Supervisor, Miss Lenta Hall, show 16 branches employing 42 nurses of the full Canadian complement of 484. Activities of these nurses, for the period of one year, are recorded as follows: bedside care given to 13,600 patients, 87,500 visits made to them; 711 mothers attended during home delivery; 1,830 additional babies cared for on return from delivery at hospital; and prenatal advice given to 1,520 expectant mothers.

The role which the V.O.N. has played in Nova Scotia in the past fifty years has been wide and varied, but possibly the most outstanding part was the work done during and after the disastrous explosion in Halifax, December, 1917. Wearing a red arm band with V.O.N. clearly distinguishable in white, and performing splendidly, the nurses went wherever needed, day and night. For their care of the tragically blinded, or those with eyes injured, high tribute was paid by Sir Frederick Fraser, then head of the School for the blind.

Following the example of Halifax, Truro and Canso each opened a branch in 1900. Spacing the years came others, until now a goodly portion of the Province is reached by the services of the V.O.N. Further expansion is only being held up, states Miss Hall, by the great shortage of fully qualified nurses.

## *University Courses*

To be a fully qualified V.O.N. nurse in earlier years, a graduate of an accredited general training school could take a further short course on V.O.N. procedure, with the understanding she would stay two years in the employ of the Order. Schools for this further training were opened at various points across the country. With the advent of Public Health these schools were discontinued, graduates now being able to get prescribed V.O.N. courses at universities. To further encourage and interest nurses in V.O.N. work, the National Office now offers a $500 scholarship toward university expenses, with the proviso of one year's service later. To date, 18 of the 42 nurses employed in Nova Scotia, have Public Health training.

Duties of other days revolved mostly about bedside nursing and home teaching, but further duties have been added through the years. Home care and teaching will stand first, the former including home deliveries, of which there are still a great number, and minor surgery. Then comes Child Health and Welfare, Immunization clinics, School nursing in eleven branches, Industrial nursing in one centre, classes in Home nursing and pre- and post-natal care. Of the bedside work, fifty per cent, relates the Supervisor, is charitable, and often discouraging to the nurses in tenement districts. (This percentage of charitable work done in Nova Scotia, is about the same across Canada.)

The V.O.N. nurse must be, in Florence Nightingale's words "a Good Woman," actively interested in her work. She must have unfailing patience, cheerfulness and tact. She must be adaptable, to fit into the ever-changing environs of each day's rounds. She must be skilful enough to fit whatever is at hand to a patient's need. She must, by her own personal appearance, present an example for teaching, and she must be ready, as no other graduate nurse need be, to accompany the doctor, or go at his direction, at any hour, in all weathers, on calls to all types of homes, regardless of race, color, creed or financial standing.

## *Around the Clock*

Hours for duty are said to be seven or eight, but in reality, the V.O. nurse is on call twenty-four hours. In even mild epidemics of sickness, where only one nurse is employed, those hours may be long, arduous and broken. Allowance is made for this however, and sufficient rest periods assured. Each week one half day is free, Sundays and holidays only emergency calls are accepted, and once each month a relief nurse takes over, while the V.O. nurse has a long, Friday noon to Sunday night, week-end. At least two weeks each year are allowed for sick leave, and an annual holiday of one month. Retirement annuities are available to all nurses employed by the V.O.N. serving the stipulated length of time.

The trim figure in blue coat, blue Stetson adorned with V.O.N. badge, blue uniform with white collar, carrying a little black bag, is a familiar sight to most Nova Scotians. Strangely enough though, the figure minus the bag, it is said, would be just one more uniformed young woman, from one or other of numerous agencies or organizations. To patients, and to many others also, the little black bag alone stands as the Symbol of V.O.N. service and immediately identifies its owner.

The bag, black leather, with straight sides, flat, overlapping top, and two carrying handles, weighs approximately eight pounds when filled with equipment, and must be kept ready for instant use, well stocked with essentials for bedside care, including the one piece white apron, to be buttoned across the front of the uniform.

Through the years, many V.O. nurses have cherished the idea that the bag is gifted with protective powers. This, they contend, accounts for the unexplainable feeling of perfect safety they have, while working in and about less desirable areas. Nurse D.— had a short evening call to make to a tenement on a dark side street. As she reached the street, all the town lights went off, plunging the whole area into intense darkness. Unprepared for just this type of emergency, and also not too sure of the location of the house, she began feeling her way, a trifle furtive-


● The marbled ware tea-pot illustrated below is an example of the fine English Pottery made by Thomas Whieldon (active 1740-1780). Photograph by courtesy Royal Ontario Museum.

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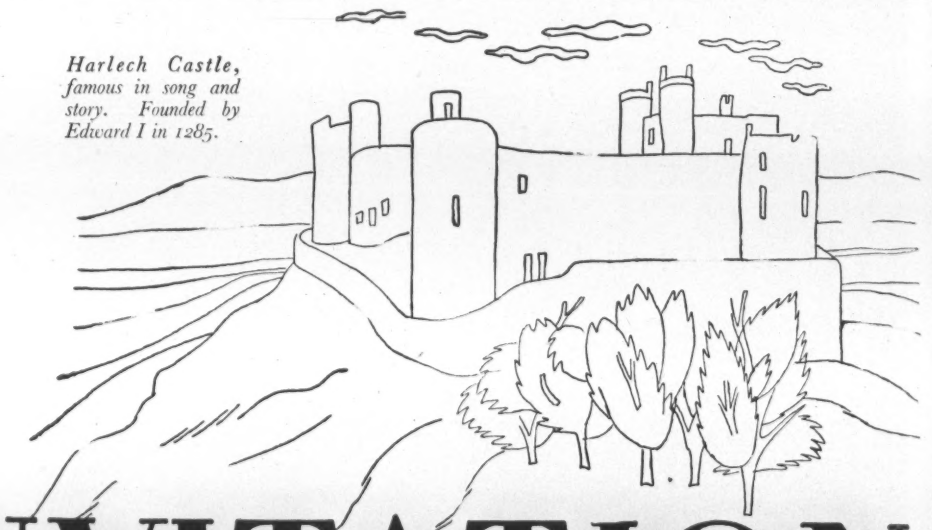
*Harlech Castle, famous in song and story. Founded by Edward I in 1285.*



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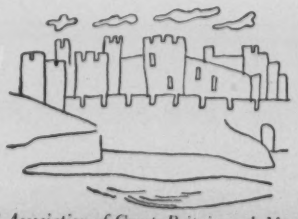

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ly, from one doorway to the next. Suddenly, with no whisper of forewarning, a hand brushed her sleeve, a male voice challenged, sharply. Startled, she hurried to make reply. "It's the V.O. nurse. Please help me mind Mrs. ——."

A light glowed, circled about, found the bag, focussed on it for a moment, then beckoning, led the way, held by an unseen hand. A little later, the nurse emerged from her visit, to find the lights still off. In an instant, the flashlight materialized again, leading the way straight to the main thoroughfare. "Let me assure you," Nurse D.— said later, "it was not a street in which a woman, alone, would care to stroll. After the fright passed, I seemed to become aware, in a new sense, of my bag. The light had centered on it alone, for assurance, not on my uniform or myself. Somehow I knew I would have safe conduct."

### *Sliding Scale*

Financial arrangements covering expenditures for general overhead, upkeep of equipment, including the nurse's car, or taxi hire where no car is supplied, nurse's salary, etc., are carried independently by each branch. Disbursements of greater or lesser amounts from city, town or county, are augmented by public donations, donations from clubs, (besides monetary gifts, clubs have also presented to branches in their immediate vicinity, a nurse's car), membership drives, and various other money-making schemes. Fees from insurance companies and from patients able to pay, also go into branch treasuries, and are not the property of the nurse, as many believe. The scale for fees slides, from the top charge of one dollar per visit, down to nothing, but the inability of fifty per cent of patients to pay in no way interferes with the service given.

Frequently, a great deal of expense is incurred among the very poor. Bobbie, a two-year-old mite of humanity, lived with his parents and three more children, in a room and kitchen of one of the more dilapidated tenements. The father worked quite steadily, but the mother, a big, shapeless woman, not too intelligent, was lazy and shiftless. The room contained three beds, a rickety table and dresser, two chairs and a stove was unclean and evil smelling, and had just one small window.

On one bed, at the nurse's first visit, lay Bobbie—and a sister, three-and-a-half, who died that night—very dirty and very ill with 'flu complicated by under-nourishment. The bed was far from clean, but fortunately, neither too ragged nor verminous. Thorough washing fitted the clothing for future use. In the meantime, clean clothing must be had for two patients and the bed. With none at hand, this, plus materials for sick care, were supplied by the branch.

Completing the sick care, the nurse turned her attention to the room. A fourteen year old daughter, a street waif, was set to cleaning everything washable, and, with the window opened occasionally, the room became fairly sanitary. The mother, far advanced in a seventh pregnancy, was given pre-natal instruction, a layette and essentials for delivery and later care of the baby. The new bed clothing, after Bobbie recovered, was cleaned and kept for her use.

To the nurse, the discouraging angle of such cases is the endless, and seemingly useless, repetition. In the quoted case, the birth of Bobbie and the sister who died, had been attended by other V.O. nurses, and each nurse had set about the same cleaning, the same teaching, the branch had had to supply fresh materials, as though each had been a first time.

It is impossible for the busy nurse to have follow-up calls stretch to an indefinite number, and, when a case is completed, it doesn't take long for such families to slip back to familiar habits. Children are the bright spot in the picture, and to assure them a chance for better living, the V.O.N. cooperates with Social Service and Child Health and Welfare agencies.

A very high percentage of the sick poor are wonderful patients. They may not be able to pay in actual cash, but, in many ways, the nurse is repaid a thousandfold. They are most grateful, and try faithfully to carry out prescribed orders and treatment. Sometimes too, the courage and cheerfulness displayed while under pain, have been the greatest uplift to a weary nurse.

To be able to ease torturing pain for even one sufferer, to bring a little color into dreary days, makes everything worth the effort.

• •

### SISSY STUFF

LITTLE girls put up a face to be kissed,
All warmth and sweetness and light;
But a boy puts up a belligerent fist
Or kicks up his heels in flight.
Little girls bestow a kiss on you
As gracious as a queen;
A boy has his loving moments, too—
But surreptitious, and far between!

MAY RICHSTONE

*"Pink Lady" lace evening dress with tiers of the skirt stiffened underneath. The narrow circlet belt is jewelled in pink. By Foxbrownie.*

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MUSIC

# Good Year for Scherman

By JOHN H. YOCOM

THIS week, with a special Retirement Fund concert, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra was bringing to a close a remarkable season. Seventy-four times the orchestra had appeared in subscription concerts, Pops, out-of-town programs, school concerts, and with special groups like the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir a fortnight ago. Like that of every other symphony the season had had its highlights, some tiltings at unproductive repertoire windmills, and some downright perfunctory work. But there was no denying that it had been a good year by either cultural or box-office measurements.

Two features particularly had made it so: 1) the perspicuous and stimulating directing of the Assistant Conductor, Paul Scherman, in his first year at the job; 2) the close attention, after regrettable past neglect, that was paid Canadian composers, their works appearing both on separate programs and in a special concert.

Paul Scherman, 38-year-old Toronto-born violinist, joined the T.S.O.'s violin section at fifteen after winning an orchestra scholarship. Last year he was on the podium for most Pops, picked much of the Pop music, gave the series a showmanship brilliance, and definitely set himself upon the course of a promising career. Mr. Scherman's competency at securing fine orchestral tone has become more marked with each concert appearance. Last week's final Pop, with beauteous and sweet-voiced U.S.-soprano Dorothy Sarnoff as assisting artist, was a telling example of variety and *élan*. Mr. Scherman facilely handles all sections for balance and blending, and although Pop selections admittedly make few interpretive demands, he gives enlightened and careful readings. Nor is he afraid to take a few liberties with score marks to get a more effective presentation. He might correct a balance for clarity's sake or speed up a finale for general excitement.

Both the Musical Director, Sir Ernest MacMillan, and Associate Conductor, Ettore Mazzoleni, the latter in fewer appearances this season, gave dependable leadership. Out of a vast musical experience, Sir Ernest is admirably prepared to bridge, as an interpreter, modern musical styles and pre-modern, to evaluate with few errors of judgment whether the new music he considers for performance has anything really worthwhile.

The T.S.O. is an assemblage of good players. It pleased large audiences last year, including weekly Canadian radio listeners and an American audience on an N.B.C. Orchestras-of-the-Nation series, but good and satisfying as it has been, it can do better.

### *Dazzling Soloist*

Three factors went to make the final subscription concert topnotch. First was dynamic, young U.S. pianist William Kapell playing Rachmaninoff's Concerto No. 3. Kapell's technical powers responded without hesitancy to every expressive demand. His technique was clean and dry, his tone agreeable and varied in color, his musical understanding sound. There was a straightforwardness in his playing and organizing of his melody, bass figures and countermelody that seemed to give an orchestral quality to the piano itself. But such dazzling solo work made more noticeable any timidities in the orchestra.

The second news-worthy part of the evening was the playing of Symphonic Movement by George Hurst, a young Canadian composer, now lecturing at Peabody Institute. Its musical material, somewhat suggestive of Vaughan Williams, was varied in rhythm and melody and its treatment full of sound sense as well as skill. However, neither was it music of direct melodic and harmonic appeal for the uninitiated, nor was it stimulation for the modernists. The third highlight of the evening was the Beethoven Fifth Symphony. Sir Ernest managed to put emphasis on both the masculine material and the tender and gentle passages.

•

Accompanied by Albert H. Kennedy, Jean MacLeod, contralto, presented a Scotch-song recital of peculiar charm last week to a packed Royal Ontario Museum Theatre. Miss MacLeod's tonal variety and purity, expressive powers of presentation, and authoritative knowledge of and feeling for the literature made for particularly apt interpretations. In well-rounded tones, the songs suggestive of Scottish life were treated with melodic and rhythmic finesse. M.K.

*Five women who play in the string section of the famed Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra: (L. to R.) Lois Putlitz, Marilyn Costello, Elsa Hilger, Veda Reynolds and Jill Bailiff. The orchestra will present its annual series of Toronto concerts at Massey Hall, April 27 and 28.*

Glenn Kruspe, a Kitchener, Ont., young man, has been conductor of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra since its founding. His Symphony in C minor will be presented at its concert on April 29.

•

Boris Hambourg was guest artist at the Lindsay Choral Society second annual concert last Thursday. Today's Cello Matinee at the Heliconian Hall will be Boris Hambourg's last Toronto public appearance this season before leaving in July for a short tour in Great Britain.


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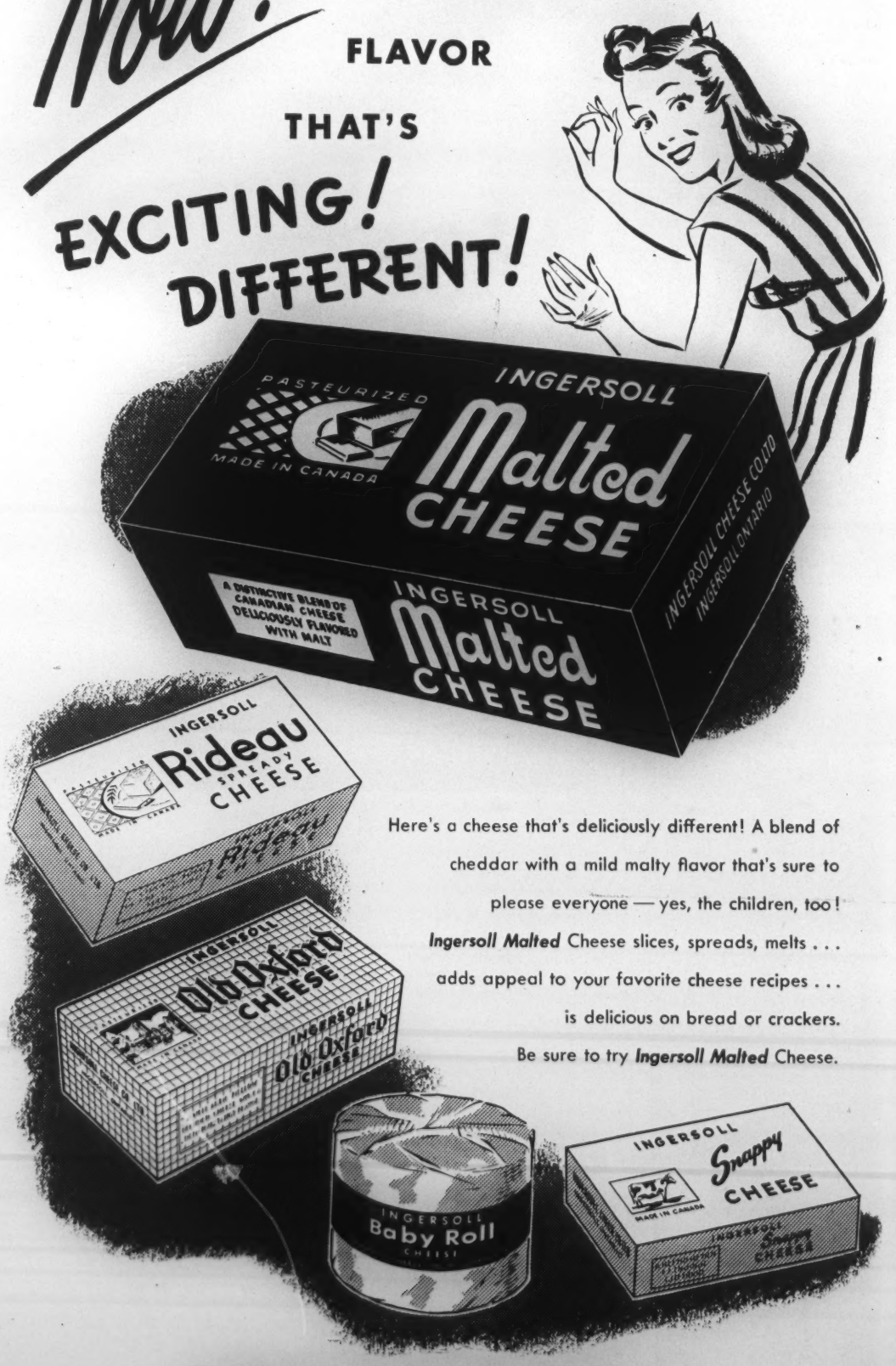


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CUISINE

# The Spices of Life

By NORMAN M. GILCHRIST

DURING 1948 every Canadian in good health will eat 1095 meals. This means that over 547 hours or a little more than three weeks will be spent by each individual at the dining table or some substitute for it. The total of six and a half billion man hours will this year be devoted by Canadians to eating. This figure is not astronomical—it's gastronomical!

With the abundant resources for food supply in this country it is astonishing that so much criticism can be aimed at Canadian cookery, when such a large slice of everyone's life is devoted to consuming its products.

Perhaps the art of cooking and eating has been neglected in the rush and bustle of modern life. How many people simply eat to fill a vacuum, much as you refuel your gas tank? Food becomes just so much fodder—you pile it into yourself as if you were filling a silo. Taste and variety become secondary.

There are many reasons why the national palate might degenerate. Many of us are compelled by circumstances to eat at least one meal a day in an establishment where mass production methods reduce the foodstuffs of the good earth to the lowest gastronomic denominator. Then again, so many of us are in such a hurry we pass by many of the best things in life in our unreasonable haste to find them. A great many persons have a habit of thinking that in order to have a successful dinner the diners should first be plied with cocktails. Well, it depends on what you want. Nothing outside of an anaesthetic dulls the palate more effectively than a quick overdose of cocktails.

In certain parts of Canada there has been considerable talk about the encouragement of tourist trade. The amenities and particularly the food offered in the general run of tourist establishments has come in for a fair share of criticism. If we are to make the most of this valuable business a few first-class caterers dispersed about towns and country is not the answer, although they would help. Good, small restaurants where the individual taste is considered should not be rarities but in order to exist they cannot depend only on tourist trade. There must be sufficient demand in the various localities to support them. This demand will come in proportion as we develop our eating habits generally.

In France before the war the country was enriched by innumerable eating places where one went to dine, not to stuff. Such a condition is the result of the national palate being educated to appreciate the art of cooking and eating. This education begins at home.

How many of the thirteen odd billion meals which Canadians will eat during 1948 will be prepared at home as a routine matter, with little or no imagination—just the same old drill, day after day? It would be difficult to say but it would be a fair bet that the number would come to a good percentage. Why? There is an abundance of raw material. There are more cook books on the market than ever before, also more labor-

*The author, formerly of the R.C.A.F., is manager of La Touraine, a restaurant which, since its opening in November in the Roxboro, has become one of Ottawa's best-known hostelries.—Editor.*

saving devices, more semi-prepared foods in tin cans and frozen packages. Could it be that things culinary are just so easy that interest flags?

Do you remember the days of yesteryear when so many more of us lived in our own houses instead of apartments? Do you remember the well-stocked cellar overflowing in the fall with homemade preserves and pickles? How busy the household was in the late days of summer? Even now I can smell the pungent fragrance of spices, herbs and vinegar as the year's supply of tomato chili sauce was being made on the old coal-burning range.

"But," says Mrs. 1948, "who would go back to all that drudgery in this day and age?" And quite right she is. At the same time one has noticed on many occasions that when Mrs. 1948 has been given a recipe of a particular dish which she liked and it looks involved, she often admits that she is too busy to try it just now.

## Glamour Without Gadgets

Well, in those good old days mother was pretty hard pressed for time, making preserves and taking care of the household without vacuum cleaners and such gadgets, but she had time to bake pies and bread and cakes and make special dishes as well. True, she was busier than a one-armed paper hanger but she made a mighty fine job of it all. And further she was a pretty glamourous person, despite the so-called drudgery. The incidence of divorce in those days was negligible, compared with today.

If you will allow yourself to become interested, cooking can become a fascinating pastime. It is not without romance and a kind of adventure. For instance, the use of herbs, spices and wine will transform many commonplace dishes into "something rich and strange", delicious and fascinating. But in using these inflections of flavor you must be judicious and restrained.

It is surprising how little is known in Canada about herbs for cooking. For about one dollar you can buy enough dried herbs to last you a year. Here is a list which would be useful in any kitchen: savory, sage, chervil, marjoram, tarragon, thyme, bayleaves, basil, mint, parsley, rosemary.

As to spices every well-stocked kitchen cupboard should have the following: whole peppercorns, white and black pepper, cayenne pepper, paprika, ground saffron, curry powder, Mexican chili powder, ground and stick cinnamon, nutmegs, ground and whole cloves, ground ginger, ground and whole mace.

For sundry reasons it is good to have on hand always some garlic, chives and white and red wine vinegars. You can make your own tarragon and garlic vinegars according to the following recipes:

Tarragon Vinegar—Take a small handful of leaves from the stalks of freshly picked tarragon. Put them in a quart bottle and fill the bottle with white wine vinegar. Let the leaves remain in the vinegar for six weeks, then strain the vinegar and place it in small bottles. Cork well. (N.B. There are several types of tarragon. The French and Russian are the most prevalent. Avoid the Russian variety—it is coarse, strongly pungent and rather bitter.)

Garlic Vinegar—Crush five or six cloves of garlic. Let them steep in a quart of white wine vinegar for six weeks, then strain the vinegar and bottle it for use.

## Matter of Taste

The strength of flavoring in the above recipes is a matter of taste. After you have made these vinegars once you will be able to rely on your own judgment as to the amounts of tarragon and garlic to be used.

In the preparation of many sauces and stews the use of a *bouquet garni* is indicated. This is simply an assemblage of the following: A sprig of fresh thyme or one-half a teaspoon of dried thyme, a dried bay leaf and a few stalks of parsley. Enclose these in a piece of cheesecloth (like that abomination, the tea-bag) tied with a piece of string. Leave a long end of the string on to facilitate removing the bouquet when it has served its purpose.

Here is an old country recipe for a herb mixture which is hard to beat for soups, stews and sauces: Three ounces each of thyme, basil and marjoram, two ounces of savory, one ounce of dried bay leaves, two ounces of ground cloves, two ounces of white pepper, one ounce of powdered mace, one ounce of grated nutmeg, half an ounce of cayenne pepper, half an ounce of grated lemon peel and two cloves of garlic. Place the above in a mortar and pound them together. Then sift them through a wire sieve and pack the mixture in small, dry bottles. Cork well. A pinch of this excellent herbaceous, aromatic seasoning is sufficient for a quart of soup, sauce or stew.

If you have never learned the use of spices and herbs in your everyday cooking you have a real treat in store. Once you have experienced the delicate and subtle flavor and savor you will never be content with flat, unseasoned food. In short here is a way to get more enjoyment out of life at a minimum of expense.

You do not need to prepare an elaborate dish to make use of these flavorings. The next time you make a stew try a pinch of the herb mixture given above. When you have fish put a little tarragon in the accompanying sauce. Rub a leg of lamb with a clove of garlic before you put it in the oven and sprinkle a touch of rosemary on it—but just a touch. Canned soups can be enhanced with the judicious addition of herbs. Use a pinch of basil in tomato soup—there is a natural affinity.

## Tea for Birds

Next time you roast a chicken don't wash it. Simply eviscerate it well and then rub it inside and out with half a lemon. Washing destroys some of the good juices—this applies to all poultry and game birds. When you make the gravy add a dessertspoon of cold tea (some that has been left over from a previous meal and drained off the leaves so that it is not too strong). Mix this with the juice in the pan.

Now you must bear in mind that all good cooking does not taste equally good to all persons. Taste and not the measuring cup is the guide. Even herbs of the same variety vary in strength according to freshness, time of harvesting, method of drying, et cetera. You must use your imagination and also have that priceless ingredient without which no recipe can be a success, namely, faith.

• •

## 'TWAS EVER THUS

I BUMP into everyone I know
When I fare forth to market, dowdy and plain;
But groomed to the hilt, in my smartest chapeau
All I encounter is rain!

MAY RICHSTONE

*The health of the Metis Indians in Western Canada has been the mission of Dr. Mary Percy Jackson of Keg River, Alberta, for several years. She advocates special treatment for Metis with T.B.* *See story on p. 11.*

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Ardena Cleansing Cream, 1.25 to 7.00
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Orange Skin Cream, 1.25 to 9.50
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***For Dry Skin***
Ardena Cleansing Cream, 1.25 to 7.00
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***For Oily Skin***
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PERSONALITIES

# Donna Invites Success

By FRANK MORRISS

IT TOOK a depression rather than a fairy godmother to catapult Winnipeg's Donna Grescoe into Carnegie hall, and the blue-eyed, 20-year-old Winnipeg girl is taking a deep breath before she plunges into the headlines again. Her recent New York appearance before a battery of gimlet - eyed critics who expect nothing but the superlative best from those who dare to brave the most famous concert hall in one of the world's great cities has not knocked the underpinnings from Donna's career, but it has scorched her wings badly enough to make both her, and her backers, realize that it is safer, sometimes, to walk before you run.

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There is something about Donna, apart from her technical wizardry with the violin, which invites success. You may have all the talent that you wish, and you may work like a Trojan to perfect your art, but it will leave your audience cold unless it is wedded to something that theatre men call showmanship and others call personality. To meet Donna is to meet a friend. She has only to walk out on a concert stage to make people like her. She has won half the battle before she plays a single note, and the remainder of the conquest is made on sheer, glorious musical gifts.

Winnipeg had a problem of overcrowded schools, as well as a depression, in 1933. Donna, the daughter of working parents, was having a taste of both. She couldn't get into Faraday school because there wasn't room for her that term, and so she waited at home.

Donna Grescoe

The city, in 1933, was also saddled with people who made a living from selling, from door to door, everything from a patent can opener to music lessons. Mrs. Grescoe opened her door one day to a man who represented a music school. He perusaded her to let Donna take lessons . . . with a five dollar violin thrown in.

"They could just as easily have handed me a mandolin or a piano accordion," says Donna. "I really wanted to be a ballet dancer."

Donna must have made that five dollar violin sound like the proverbial million dollars, for by the time she was 10 years old she had won a $5,000 scholarship from the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago.

## Plus Quality

The Chicago experience didn't last long, but it also brought her a $1,000 violin . . . three-quarter size, because Donna was still a mite. She returned to Winnipeg to study with her original teacher, George Bornoff, and it wasn't until 1942 that she soared to headline proportions again. She rode that old concert war-horse, the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto, with such superb poise and beauty of tone that she got 98 marks in the Winnipeg Musical Competition festival and the tribute from Adjudicator Arthur Benjamin:

"Hats off, gentleman. A genius!"

The plus quality that is present in Donna: musical talent wedded to personality, stood her in good stead at this time. She looked about 10, even though she was 14, and the public's interest was flared by the publicity. The Winnipeg *Tribune*, shrewdly sensing this, arranged a concert for her and replaced the borrowed violin, now grown too small for her, with a $1,000 Deconnet instrument on the proceeds of the program.

It was only a step from this to a $100 gift from the Women's Musical club, and this formed the nucleus of the Donna Grescoe Educational Trust Fund. She went to New York for further study. Mishel Piastro, former concertmaster of the New York-Philharmonic orchestra, took her under his wing with the words that "you have what it takes to become a virtuoso."

## Winnipeg's Pride

By this time the name Donna Grescoe had become as familiar in Winnipeg as that of Deanna Durbin, another local product. The public followed her every move with interest. When she gave a concert in the city to finance her debut in Town Hall in 1947 the Manitoba and Dominion governments waived all taxes for it and Lady Eaton presented her with an imported silver brocade gown. Both Winnipeg papers sent their musical editors to New York especially to cover the Town Hall debut, which was also attended by Mayor Garnet Coulter and Ralph Maybank, Winnipeg M.P.

Town Hall was almost filled for the event, an almost unprecedented thing for a New York debut, since aspiring musicians generally find that a violent application of "paper" to the house in the form of free tickets is needed to attract an audience. Some debutantes have even had to pay people to show up, giving them the prevailing rate for dress extras, à-la-Hollywood.

## At Crossroads

The blasé New York audience stayed for three encores, and the reviewers, for the most part, were enthusiastic. "An uncommonly talented girl," said Ross Parmenter of the New York *Times*." "Not only is she already a mistress of her instrument but she has a sure sense of style," he added, saying that her playing of the Bach G Minor sonata for violin alone was played with an intellectual mastery and breadth of style almost unknown in a young performer.

Recitals in Chicago, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and a scholarship with the Berkshire festival followed. The Winnipeg trust fund managers, sensing further glory, decided on Carnegie Hall for the next step. It was a mistake, and it was one punctuated by the popping of flashlight bulbs and the presence of newsreel cameramen. The notices were lukewarm. Donna had the stuff of which fine artists are made, they said, but she shouldn't have tried Carnegie Hall as yet.

Donna, who has developed an amazing amount of poise without losing the charm that causes an audience to take her to its heart, was downhearted, but not discouraged. She is only 20 years of age, and she has plenty of time to recover her artistic balance.

Meanwhile, she has been to Toronto and has won a collection of adjectives for her playing . . . all of them on the enthusiastic side.

And now, Donna is at the artistic crossroads, with every indication that she has taken the right path. The let-down that has followed the Carnegie Hall appearance has taught her that she must watch her step in future. The trust fund to help her along the thorny concert path was dissolved a week or so ago, but its chairman, Mrs. W. H. Collum, of Winnipeg, still has great faith in her.

There was talk of an Australian tour for Donna, but Mrs. Collum says "no." She wants Donna to work hard and broaden her repertoire. Australia will have to wait for a year or two.

She is taking several lessons a week both from Mishel Piastro and Leopold Mittman, who accompanied her in her New York appearance. Mr. Mittman, who during his day has served as accompanist for many of the great violinists, including Mischa Elman, says Donna is something special. So does Mr. Piastro.

Piastro was away playing in Chicago when Donna made her Town Hall debut in 1947. Thus, he was not present to witness one of the most striking things about Donna. She plays best when there is a climactic necessity to rise to the heights.

Thus it was that Mr. Piastro did not realize the plus factor that is in Donna, something which is, perhaps, not so apparent in the studio.

## Like Nobody Else

He did attend her Carnegie Hall recital though and he came away saying that "it is the first time I have really heard her." Disregarding the critics, he is convinced, as are thousands of others, that Donna Grescoe has the seeds of greatness in her. "She plays like nobody else," says Mr. Piastro, "and you can't compare her with somebody else. In a few seasons the critics will be comparing other people to Donna."

Meanwhile, Mr. Piastro is intent on building up the Grescoe repertoire of concertos. He does a good deal of guest conducting and he is determined to have the young Winnipeg violinist as soloist whenever, and wherever possible.

It is taking no chances to predict that Donna Grescoe is going to be world-famous in the not-too-distant future. The Winnipeg furore is going to be toned down to a quieter, but nonetheless sincere tribute in a much wider field. Canada has already given Kathleen Parlow to the world. Little Miss Grescoe, of Ukrainian descent, is the next on the list.

MODERN LIVING

# Coin-in-the-Slot Wash

By TANNIS LEE

YES! They're doing it now in Canada.

Men and women are washing their dirty linen in public and laughing at the old taboo. And who wouldn't when a coin-in-the-slot Launderette opens up in the neighborhood shopping centre.

The sociability found in a Launderette reminds one of the European peasants on wash day at the river bank. There the comparison ends for this is a mechanized modern approach which leaves the customer free to attend to other errands while the wonder machine washes and rinses three times a 9 pound wash in 30 minutes. And the clientele is by no means strictly feminine. The men have taken to it with the same enthusiasm with which they monopolize Junior's electric train.

The Telecoin Corporation of New York, who are the world distributors for the coin-operated commercial Bendix, first installed these machines in an apartment house in New York in 1938. The experiment not only pleased the apartment owners by eliminating the need for washtubs but delighted the tenants whose many friends came to try them out. Eugene R. Farney and Arthur W. Percival, originators of the idea, made plans for expanding commercially in all sections of the country but the war intervened and the civilian lost out.

But not the United States army, navy and coast guard. Sixty thousand machines were put into action in their camps, training schools and hospitals and the men became conditioned, the painless way, to taking laundry chores in their stride.

After the war, when the Telecoin Corporation was able to get enough machines to go ahead with their pre-war plans for expansion, it was the ex-service men who first jumped at such a chance to get started in business for themselves. They were sure that, with such a backlog of experience in using them, they could sell the idea to the public. Fifty per cent of all Launderettes now operated are owned by these men.

## Perfect Timing

The first postwar Launderette was opened on November 20, 1944, in the Bronx in a new apartment development of small town proportions. No first day sale of nylons brought out a larger crowd and the police were called in to handle the situation.

And was it any wonder! The timing was perfect. Soap shortages were harassing the housewife and commercial laundries were refusing service to new customers and the old were kept waiting three and four weeks for their bundles to be returned. Old washing machines were breaking down and new ones were unavailable. The men were screaming for their shirts and underwear and the stores could not supply replacements. So the women did the next best thing. They washed out the shirts and shorts in the bathtub.

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*V-8 is a trade-mark owned in Canada by Standard Brands Limited.

ed such a definite need in apartment set-ups, the next question was whether the idea would succeed if it appeared on the main street in full view of the public gaze. Would the response be as tremendous or would women shy away from such exposure? Perhaps the entrance should be discreetly hidden away on a side street with all the secrecy of a speakeasy. They decided in favor of putting on a bold front and the first Launderette opened in the middle of a busy shopping center. It did not hide modestly behind curtained windows but was wide open behind glass for the whole world to see.

### *Aboard, Ashore*

Today, there are 1,300 Launderettes in 700 cities and towns in every state but Montana and Vermont. In addition to these stores, Telecoin has installed 50,500 coin operated machines in apartments and housing projects. They have also gone into hospitals, industrial plants, trailer camps and quonset hut communities. Along with the wives and babies they have moved on to more than 30 college campuses from Maine to California and students are using them in their dormitories and fraternity houses.

*H.M.S. Vanguard* on the Royal South African Tour had its battery of Bendix washers and the Blue Star Line's *Argentine* is now offering Launderette self-service to its first class passengers.

Even the United Nations has its own Launderette installed at Lake Success which may in its own way contribute to international understanding.

The austerity program is hindering Canadian expansion. Since last August many commercial Bendix coin-in-the-slot machines have been installed in apartment buildings and even the Riding Trailer Camp in Toronto was included in this first experiment. The first Launderette in a shopping center opened in September. There are now 14 of these Launderettes—3 in Montreal, 4 in Toronto, 5 in Vancouver and Ottawa and Kingston each have one. Orders which were placed before the import ban on November 17 are coming through and it is expected that there will be a total of more than 20 Launderettes operating shortly in Canada. Many more were planned but the orders did not get through in time and Canadian development is at a standstill until the ban is lifted.

### *The Proprietor*

To carry the Launderette trade name a prospective proprietor must apply for his franchise through the Telecoin Corporation of New York. To keep it, he must meet the standards set by the company for sanitation and cleanliness. He can become a member of the Telecoin Lauderette Chain which is a voluntary organization. In return he is given advice about problems of location, number of machines for size of shop, heating and softening of water, lighting and endless other details about which he has had no experience.

Otherwise he is on his own and each Launderette more or less is as individual as its owner and prices charged and extra services offered will vary in different communities.

The use of a Launderette is anyone's privilege. Bundles arrive in anything from baby carriages to chauffeur-driven limousines. People come on street cars, bicycles or on foot carrying their wash in paper shopping bags, suitcases, market baskets or laundry bags. They come in droves, old and young, men, women and children from eight in the morning till as late as the stores are permitted to remain open according to local regulations.

When they arrive, they check in at the receiving desk, their bundle is weighed on the scales and they are assigned an empty machine. An attendant is always on hand to assist and give advice to newcomers. In the States, soap vending machines dole out for a nickel packages of soap granules, soap flakes, detergents, bleaches or bluing like any cigarette machine in a restaurant. In Canada they are spooning the soap out of a bowl for lack of such equipment. American stores also have extractors which for an extra 10 cents whirl the wash damp dry. A few of these have reached Canada and some of them are being used in the Vancouver Launderettes.

Women, who have no errands, fill in the time knitting, reading, writing letters, exchanging recipes or mending the family socks. Some real friendships have developed out of these casual contacts and lonely British or European war brides have found others from the land of their birth through the help of an alert manager who takes the trouble to arrange that people with common interests or backgrounds hear about or meet each other.

### *Social Centres*

It is during the evening that most of the men lug in the family wash and it isn't long before they settle down to a game of gin rummy, chess or checkers while they drink a coke.

Some stores are installing hair dryers for the convenience of the women who can get their hair set at the local beauty parlour, then check in at the Launderette and do their sitting while their wash is automatically handled in the Bendix. Others, if they have a small yard at the back of the store, are setting out garden chairs for the summer and putting up pens for the babies. They are even offering to watch these small children while the mother goes shopping. Some are installing television sets so the men won't miss out on any of the games.

Anything can happen in a Launderette if its owner happens to have imagination.

*The side slant of the draped line of this navy shantung bonnet is accented by white wings perched slightly off centre. By Hattie Carnegie.*


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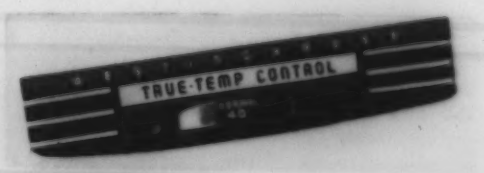


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PERSONALITIES

# Donna Invites Success

By FRANK MORRISS

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The Chicago experience didn't last long, but it also brought her a $1,000 violin . . . three-quarter size, because Donna was still a mite. She returned to Winnipeg to study with her original teacher, George Bornoff, and it wasn't until 1942 that she soared to headline proportions again. She rode that old concert war-horse, the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto, with such superb poise and beauty of tone that she got 98 marks in the Winnipeg Musical Competition festival and the tribute from Adjudicator Arthur Benjamin:

"Hats off, gentleman. A genius!"

The plus quality that is present in Donna: musical talent wedded to personality, stood her in good stead at this time. She looked about 10, even though she was 14, and the public's interest was flared by the publicity. The Winnipeg *Tribune*, shrewdly sensing this, arranged a concert for her and replaced the borrowed violin, now grown too small for her, with a $1,000 Deconnet instrument on the proceeds of the program.

It was only a step from this to a $100 gift from the Women's Musical club, and this formed the nucleus of the Donna Grescoe Educational Trust Fund. She went to New York for further study. Mishel Piastro, former concertmaster of the New York-Philharmonic orchestra, took her under his wing with the words that "you have what it takes to become a virtuoso."

## Winnipeg's Pride

By this time the name Donna Grescoe had become as familiar in Winnipeg as that of Deanna Durbin, another local product. The public followed her every move with interest. When she gave a concert in the city to finance her debut in Town Hall in 1947 the Manitoba and Dominion governments waived all taxes for it and Lady Eaton presented her with an imported silver brocade gown. Both Winnipeg papers sent their musical editors to New York especially to cover the Town Hall debut, which was also attended by Mayor Garnet Coulter and Ralph Maybank, Winnipeg M.P.

Town Hall was almost filled for the event, an almost unprecedented thing for a New York debut, since aspiring musicians generally find that a violent application of "paper" to the house in the form of free tickets is needed to attract an audience. Some debutantes have even had to pay people to show up, giving them the prevailing rate for dress extras, à-la-Hollywood.

## At Crossroads

The blasé New York audience stayed for three encores, and the reviewers, for the most part, were enthusiastic. "An uncommonly talented girl," said Ross Parmenter of the New York *Times*." "Not only is she already a mistress of her instrument but she has a sure sense of style," he added, saying that her playing of the Bach G Minor sonata for violin alone was played with an intellectual mastery and breadth of style almost unknown in a young performer.

Recitals in Chicago, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and a scholarship with the Berkshire festival followed. The Winnipeg trust fund managers, sensing further glory, decided on Carnegie Hall for the next step. It was a mistake, and it was one punctuated by the popping of flashlight bulbs and the presence of newsreel cameramen. The notices were lukewarm. Donna had the stuff of which fine artists are made, they said, but she shouldn't have tried Carnegie Hall as yet.

Donna, who has developed an amazing amount of poise without losing the charm that causes an audience to take her to its heart, was downhearted, but not discouraged. She is only 20 years of age, and she has plenty of time to recover her artistic balance.

Meanwhile, she has been to Toronto and has won a collection of adjectives for her playing . . . all of them on the enthusiastic side.

And now, Donna is at the artistic crossroads, with every indication that she has taken the right path. The let-down that has followed the Carnegie Hall appearance has taught her that she must watch her step in future. The trust fund to help her along the thorny concert path was dissolved a week or so ago, but its chairman, Mrs. W. H. Collum, of Winnipeg, still has great faith in her.

There was talk of an Australian tour for Donna, but Mrs. Collum says "no." She wants Donna to work hard and broaden her repertoire. Australia will have to wait for a year or two.

She is taking several lessons a week both from Mishel Piastro and Leopold Mittman, who accompanied her in her New York appearance. Mr. Mittman, who during his day has served as accompanist for many of the great violinists, including Mischa Elman, says Donna is something special. So does Mr. Piastro.

Piastro was away playing in Chicago when Donna made her Town Hall debut in 1947. Thus, he was not present to witness one of the most striking things about Donna. She plays best when there is a climactic necessity to rise to the heights.

Thus it was that Mr. Piastro did not realize the plus factor that is in Donna, something which is, perhaps, not so apparent in the studio.

## Like Nobody Else

He did attend her Carnegie Hall recital though and he came away saying that "it is the first time I have really heard her." Disregarding the critics, he is convinced, as are thousands of others, that Donna Grescoe has the seeds of greatness in her. "She plays like nobody else," says Mr. Piastro, "and you can't compare her with somebody else. In a few seasons the critics will be comparing other people to Donna."

Meanwhile, Mr. Piastro is intent on building up the Grescoe repertoire of concertos. He does a good deal of guest conducting and he is determined to have the young Winnipeg violinist as soloist whenever, and wherever possible.

It is taking no chances to predict that Donna Grescoe is going to be world-famous in the not-too-distant future. The Winnipeg furore is going to be toned down to a quieter, but nonetheless sincere tribute in a much wider field. Canada has already given Kathleen Parlow to the world. Little Miss Grescoe, of Ukrainian descent, is the next on the list.

MODERN LIVING

# Coin-in-the-Slot Wash

By TANNIS LEE

YES! They're doing it now in Canada.

Men and women are washing their dirty linen in public and laughing at the old taboo. And who wouldn't when a coin-in-the-slot Launderette opens up in the neighborhood shopping centre.

The sociability found in a Launderette reminds one of the European peasants on wash day at the river bank. There the comparison ends for this is a mechanized modern approach which leaves the customer free to attend to other errands while the wonder machine washes and rinses three times a 9 pound wash in 30 minutes. And the clientele is by no means strictly feminine. The men have taken to it with the same enthusiasm with which they monopolize Junior's electric train.

The Telecoin Corporation of New York, who are the world distributors for the coin-operated commercial Bendix, first installed these machines in an apartment house in New York in 1938. The experiment not only pleased the apartment owners by eliminating the need for washtubs but delighted the tenants whose many friends came to try them out. Eugene R. Farney and Arthur W. Percival, originators of the idea, made plans for expanding commercially in all sections of the country but the war intervened and the civilian lost out.

But not the United States army, navy and coast guard. Sixty thousand machines were put into action in their camps, training schools and hospitals and the men became conditioned, the painless way, to taking laundry chores in their stride.

After the war, when the Telecoin Corporation was able to get enough machines to go ahead with their prewar plans for expansion, it was the ex-service men who first jumped at such a chance to get started in business for themselves. They were sure that, with such a backlog of experience in using them, they could sell the idea to the public. Fifty per cent of all Launderettes now operated are owned by these men.

## Perfect Timing

The first postwar Launderette was opened on November 20, 1944, in the Bronx in a new apartment development of small town proportions. No first day sale of nylons brought out a larger crowd and the police were called in to handle the situation.

And was it any wonder! The timing was perfect. Soap shortages were harassing the housewife and commercial laundries were refusing service to new customers and the old were kept waiting three and four weeks for their bundles to be returned. Old washing machines were breaking down and new ones were unavailable. The men were screaming for their shirts and underwear and the stores could not supply replacements. So the women did the next best thing. They washed out the shirts and shorts in the bathtub.

If self-service Launderettes answer-

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VEGETABLE JUICE
*V-8 is a trade-mark owned in Canada by Standard Brands Limited.

ed such a definite need in apartment set-ups, the next question was whether the idea would succeed if it appeared on the main street in full view of the public gaze. Would the response be as tremendous or would women shy away from such exposure? Perhaps the entrance should be discreetly hidden away on a side street with all the secrecy of a speakeasy. They decided in favor of putting on a bold front and the first Launderette opened in the middle of a busy shopping center. It did not hide modestly behind curtained windows but was wide open behind glass for the whole world to see.

## *Aboard, Ashore*

Today, there are 1,300 Launderettes in 700 cities and towns in every state but Montana and Vermont. In addition to these stores, Telecoin has installed 50,500 coin operated machines in apartments and housing projects. They have also gone into hospitals, industrial plants, trailer camps and quonset hut communities. Along with the wives and babies they have moved on to more than 30 college campuses from Maine to California and students are using them in their dormitories and fraternity houses.

*H.M.S. Vanguard* on the Royal South African Tour had its battery of Bendix washers and the Blue Star Line's *Argentine* is now offering Launderette self-service to its first class passengers.

Even the United Nations has its own Launderette installed at Lake Success which may in its own way contribute to international understanding.

The austerity program is hindering Canadian expansion. Since last August many commercial Bendix coin-in-the-slot machines have been installed in apartment buildings and even the Riding Trailer Camp in Toronto was included in this first experiment. The first Launderette in a shopping center opened in September. There are now 14 of these Launderettes—3 in Montreal, 4 in Toronto, 5 in Vancouver and Ottawa and Kingston each have one. Orders which were placed before the import ban on November 17 are coming through and it is expected that there will be a total of more than 20 Launderettes operating shortly in Canada. Many more were planned but the orders did not get through in time and Canadian development is at a standstill until the ban is lifted.

## *The Proprietor*

To carry the Launderette trade name a prospective proprietor must apply for his franchise through the Telecoin Corporation of New York. To keep it, he must meet the standards set by the company for sanitation and cleanliness. He can become a member of the Telecoin Lauderette Chain which is a voluntary organization. In return he is given advice about problems of location, number of machines for size of shop, heating and softening of water, lighting and endless other details about which he has had no experience.

Otherwise he is on his own and each Launderette more or less is as individual as its owner and prices charged and extra services offered will vary in different communities.

The use of a Launderette is anyone's privilege. Bundles arrive in anything from baby carriages to chauffeur-driven limousines. People come on street cars, bicycles or on foot carrying their wash in paper shopping bags, suitcases, market baskets or laundry bags. They come in droves, old and young, men, women and children from eight in the morning till as late as the stores are permitted to remain open according to local regulations.

When they arrive, they check in at the receiving desk, their bundle is weighed on the scales and they are assigned an empty machine. An attendant is always on hand to assist and give advice to newcomers. In the States, soap vending machines dole out for a nickel packages of soap granules, soap flakes, detergents, bleaches or bluing like any cigarette machine in a restaurant. In Canada they are spooning the soap out of a bowl for lack of such equipment. American stores also have extractors which for an extra 10 cents whirl the wash damp dry. A few of these have reached Canada and some of them are being used in the Vancouver Launderettes.

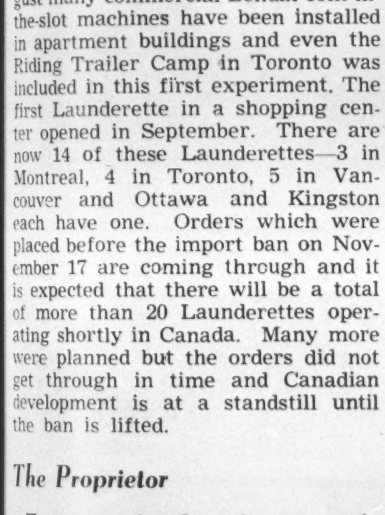
Women, who have no errands, fill in the time knitting, reading, writing letters, exchanging recipes or mending the family socks. Some real friendships have developed out of these casual contacts and lonely British or European war brides have found others from the land of their birth through the help of an alert manager who takes the trouble to arrange that people with common interests or backgrounds hear about or meet each other.

## *Social Centres*

It is during the evening that most of the men lug in the family wash and it isn't long before they settle down to a game of gin rummy, chess or checkers while they drink a coke.

Some stores are installing hair dryers for the convenience of the women who can get their hair set at the local beauty parlour, then check in at the Launderette and do their sitting while their wash is automatically handled in the Bendix. Others, if they have a small yard at the back of the store, are setting out garden chairs for the summer and putting up pens for the babies. They are even offering to watch these small children while the mother goes shopping. Some are installing television sets so the men won't miss out on any of the games.

Anything can happen in a Launderette if its owner happens to have imagination.



*The side slant of the draped line of this navy shantung bonnet is accented by white wings perched slightly off centre. By Hattie Carnegie.*

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OTHER PAGE

# Qu'Appelle, Valley of Legend

By MARY WEEKES

KAH-TAP-WEO (who calls?) is the name the Crees gave the lovely valley that rises near the elbow of the Saskatchewan River and runs easterly across the prairie for 280 miles to join the Assiniboine at Lazare in Manitoba. As long ago as 1796, according to Alexander Henry, the fur trader, the Crees looked upon this valley as one of mystery. And when Daniel Harmon explored their country in 1804 they told him that a spirit had given the valley its name. Where the river of the valley met the waters of the Assiniboine, they heard at night melancholy cries, they said, and when they asked, "Kah-tap-weo"? the evil spirits did not reply. So they named this rambling valley, "Kah-tap-weo," which the French voyageurs and fur traders translated into Qu'Appelle.

The legend that is most popular, however, and one made famous by the Indian poet, Pauline Johnston, is that a youth, paddling to meet his sweetheart, heard her call his name. He answered, "Kah-tap-weo?" but the dusk gave no answer. The Indian maiden had gone to her Manitou. To this day old Indians hear at nightfall the sad voice of the maid calling her lover and his answer, "Kah-tap-weo?" comes across the water loud and clear.

Through the long length of the valley of Qu'Appelle a little river, scarcely more than a stream, threads its way, linking in its winding course a chain of lakes that in summer reflect the blue, high-arched prairie sky. The Indians on the surrounding reservations have named these emerald and opal-tinted lakes, "The Echoing Lakes". On the northern banks of this slender river rise smooth brown hills that are slashed here and there by twisting coulées that creep back and up for hundreds of feet to exhaust themselves on the prairie itself. In striking contrast to these barren hills are the close-wooded southern slopes that autumn transforms into wild beauty. From the brown corrugated hills children call across the echoing lakes and when they receive their voices back round and full they are filled, even into adulthood, with the legends that enwrap the valley of the Qu'Appelle.

Viewed from a train window, the passing traveller, subdued by the limitless landscape upsurging with grain—green of a hundred shades, or an undulating sea of yellow wheat—is, fortunately for him, unaware of the vicious slashes a glacial age gave to the prairie to make this valley a valley of such beauty and variant form that a prairie boy was inspired to write:

You are not part of the prairie
Though in her heart you dwell:
You are the prairie's mystery,
My Valley of Qu'Appelle.

In brown-girt hills she has set you
Where softly you lie at rest:
In your mirror-lakes are the colors
That mellow the prairie's breast.

Silver the wild wolf willow,
Purple the pin-cherry tall,
Golden the mongrel maples;
Yellow the poplars—all

Are a spectrum staining the coulées
That circle the jewel, Qu'Appelle:
The prairie smiles o'er her mystery,
For deep in her heart you dwell.

DESPITE the pastoral quiet that envelops it, the valley of the Qu'Appelle has in days long past echoed other than spirit cries. It has returned the full-throated voices of voyageurs of fur-brigades. From the plains above has descended the deafening thunder of buffalo hunts. War songs of Crees and Blackfeet have ripped wide the silences. Qu'Appelle is a valley of legend and history. Across its placid lakes, La Verendrye was borne, and when he passed the Great West was opened.

The valley of legend is at its best in spring. Spring comes to the Qu'Appelle valley in a flash, swift as time. Sharp winds ride down from the hills, catch the fraying edges of ice that rim the lakes and, presently, the black honeycomb is a cascade of white crystals. Freed of their dull shells, the lakes reflect the matchless skies that span them.

Of all seasons, spring dominates the scene in the Qu'Appelle valley. Above the shining lakes, blue is over all. Over hills blue-spattered with crocuses. In blue of mallard's throat; blue-grey of pussy-willows; blue-green tinge of wild cactus and poplars thickening in the coulées. All other colors are subordinated — the mild greens of choke cherry and saskatoon shoots; the reds of willows imprisoned in ravines; the hard yellows; the shifting greens of elm and ash. It is as if the glaciers had laid their ice-blue on the valley of the Qu'Appelle.

Spring in the valley is variety and charm. A woodpecker, hammering on cottage roof, wakens one at dawn. A squirrel, bright-eyed, views sleepers on summer verandahs. A wren burst her throat in a tall elm. The voice of a robin punctuates the lilting note of a meadow-lark. Spring is the crimson bars of a waxwing's wing, the call of a crow softened by distance, the clatter of pelicans rising from the lakes on mighty wings.

It is a place of endless charm, this valley of Qu'Appelle, where people move leisurely and time is of little moment. A favorite place to enter this valley of legend and the echoing lakes is at Fort Qu'Appelle where softly the trains go whistling through. Only a little while ago, as late as 1874, Fort Qu'Appelle was the outpost of civilization in the West. Here was a trading post and to it to trade came haughty Crees and fierce Blackfeet. Only a small building of the old fort remains—the one used as a school room for the factor's children, and later as an office for General Middleton during the Riel uprising. This building has been restored by a historical society and in it are preserved a Caron stove and other relics of fur trading days.

The little village that has grown around the old trading post snuggles calmly between the hills. A row of wheat elevators stand tall and substantial in the background. Indians come from adjacent reservations and camp as of old in the vicinity of the once busy fort. They hobble their ponies in grassy places. The women gather round-eyed to admire baubles in shop windows, then scatter to meet again and boil their tea-pails over tiny camp fires. They are placid, slow of speech. The mystery of time is in their eyes.

Once it was different on this broad

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flat between Echo and Mission lakes. Old Indians still recount that, away from the trading-post, were spread the sun-browned tents of their people. The tribes had come from the high prairies above and along distant trails to meet the servants of the Great White Mother, who they were told loved her Red children. They had come to be persuaded to surrender their prairie empire to her. On September 4, 1874, they finally set their marks against their names on Qu'Appelle *Treaty Number Four* and gave the Queen, Victoria, 75,000 square miles of territory. This territory is now the most remarkable wheat growing land in the world. The Indians gave up their old wild free life and went to live on reservations; white men their masters. A tablet set up in the village of Fort Qu'Appelle records the execution of this treaty, while on the shore of Mission Lake, the Father Hugonard Indian school attests the spiritual submission of the valley Red Men.

From their barracks in the hills, adjacent to the old Hudson's Bay fort, at Fort Qu'Appelle the North West Mounted Police brought law and order to the region. It was here, in 1880, that Little Fisher, the famous horse thief of the Saskatchewan country, was taken. The tribes had gathered at Fort Qu'Appelle for the payment of treaty. Five hundred tents were spread out on the flats between Echo and Mission Lakes. There was the sound of tom-toms. Braves feasted and danced. And somewhere in the great encampment Little Fisher hid from the law.

"Locate the tent in which Fisher is hiding and report to me!" Major Steele (afterwards General Steele) instructed Alexander Isbister, the Indian interpreter. Steele commanded the detachment of Mounted Police at the fort. Isbister had the confidence of the Indians, having been born and brought up at Fort Francis where his father was a Hudson's Bay Company man. It was a hard order for him to receive.

However, he went from tent to tent, visiting with the Indians, drinking tea, smoking with them. Towards the end of the day, he found Fisher's hiding place in the tent of some friends. He marked the tent and reported to Steele. Major Steele's orders to his men were brief: "Meet me at the creek at daybreak!" The creek was near the boundary of the camping ground.

At daybreak next morning, Steele led his small party of mounted men to the encampment. Dismounting, he said, "Captain Smith, surround the encampment. Place your men two hundred feet apart. Isbister and Harris will go on foot with me!"

When they reached the tent where Fisher was staying, Steele said: "Isbister, you're the first man in the tent. Remember your side arms are self-cocking. Keep your finger on the trigger. Shoot to kill!"

In telling the story, when an old man, Isbister said, "I parted the flap of the tent and entered. Fisher was sleeping beside his wife. He awoke and made a movement for his gun. Covering him, I said, 'Don't move!' He surrendered without a word and came quietly with me. In the camps around us the Indians slept. Had the arrest been made when they were astir, the Indians would have rebelled. They were still savage and held white men in contempt. Fisher died in jail." Kah-tap-weo, Mission, Echo, Pasqua —these are the echoing lakes. They lie close to Fort Qu'Appelle but Pasqua, lost in an Indian reservation, does not resound as do the others in this group to the voices and laughter of summer visitors. Trails circle these lakes and upon them Indians go leisurely on their way, oblivious to cars that speed past them, to planes banking against the sky, to motor boats that send wild fowl to flight. It is only the spirit cry, "Kah-tap-weo?" upon the lakes at nightfall that sends them swiftly to the security of their cabins.

And on the prairies above this legendary valley of Qu'Appelle—that is a slash in its broad breast—wheat ripples and yellows in the warm summers. Men who have felt the withering suns, the lashing blizzards and the affliction of drought harvest their crops, and their pride in the valley is fierce and possessive. But those who ride across the prairie land in Pullmans are blindly unaware that these wheat farmers hold the heart of Canada, the wheatlands, and its jewel, Qu'Appelle, the Valley Who Calls, in their sinewy sun-browned hands.

• •

## DOMESTIC SONG

MOTHER Nature goes in for monotony,
The recurring rose, the nest in the tree;
A hundred thousand times, the new
Is repetition in review.

Mother Nature sings the same refrain,
The same counterpoint, time and again—
And Mother Nature has nothing on me
And domesticity!

MAY RICHSTONE

# *Profile for Today*

By H. ADDINGTON BRUCE

GOOD morning. This is Magoozlum's Wumpees. Chew Magoozlum's wumpees and look and feel like a contented cow. That's a big help these days, when there is so much to worry one if one thinks about it. And it isn't easy not to think about things sometimes. Or is it? Anyhow, chew Magoozlum's wumpees, the most delicious wumpees you can chew, made with gum straight from the beautiful wumpee tree.

Our profile to-day is about another famous non-entity, Rubber Face Willy Winksy. Everybody who goes to the movies knows Rubber Face. Thousands cheer his personal appearances. He does make the funniest faces ever were made. And he doesn't say a word! That's what makes him all the funnier—and the more famous.

There's a story that he did want to talk as well as make faces, but the movie people wouldn't let him. The story is that they discovered that he got nouns and verbs and adjectives too mixed up to make sense even out of nonsense.

Well, the story may be true. Willy Winksy was born in a small town—never mind in what State—and at the proper age was sent to school as other little boys are. But, like lots of other little boys, he didn't like going to school. He knew his father would whale him plenty if he played hookey. So he contented himself with making faces at his teacher behind her back. He made such funny faces the other pupils laughed their heads off.

One day the teacher caught Willy at it, and didn't laugh. She said she couldn't stand even the face he was born with, and got him transferred to another school. There he made funnier faces. He kept making funny faces till no school would have him.

Soon Willy was old enough to get a job in a bar-room. Now he began making faces at himself in a bar mirror. This amused the customers and Willy passed the hat. He wasn't getting too much out of that. One day a movie magnate — give him credit, it was Peter Dumby—dropped into that bar-room, spotted Willy, took him to Hollywood. Then the shekels began to roll in for both Rubber Face Willy Winsky and Peter Dumby.

But his rise wasn't just happenstance. He himself says, "I stand in front of a mirror and practice making faces four or five hours a day. I haven't broken my jaw once. I guess that's why they call me Rubber Face. I tell you I work hard. Nobody can get on in this world without hard work."

True words, those. Yet Rubber Face Willy, for all his hard work, looks amazingly young. He looks almost as young as when he started making faces in that bar-room some years ago. His own explanation? "I guess it's because I never think." Thinking does help to make wrinkles, doesn't it?

The chances are, though, that you yourself do some thinking sometimes. Chew Magoozlum's wumpees and help keep the wrinkles away by looking and feeling like a contented cow. We salute Rubber Face Willy Winksy, our famous non-entity of to-day. And we thank you. Good-bye.


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# THE BUSINESS FRONT

*Business • Finance • Insurance* SATURDAY NIGHT, TORONTO, CANADA, APRIL 24, 1948 *P. M. Richards, Financial Editor*


# Press Is Against Customs Union, Favors Lowering U.S. Tariff

By WYNNE PLUMPTRE

**Many Canadian editors commented on the proposal made by "Life" magazine that Canada should join U.S.A. in a customs union, and most of them opposed the suggestion. Opposition came from all parts of the country, including provinces that have gained least from Confederation and that are usually critical of our protective tariff. Fears were expressed that customs union would lead first to complete domination of Canada from Washington and later to political union and that we should become hewers of wood and drawers of water for the Americans.**

**On the other hand the proposal seems to be gaining some support in the United States. A group of American businessmen is putting it forward for discussion.**

WHEN, a few weeks ago, *Life* magazine ran its striking editorial urging that all tariffs should be wiped out on the Canadian-American border there was some question whether this was not just a flash in the pan. Was it not just a publicity stunt? Was there any group of people in the United States who would support the idea?

It was true that Mr. Henry Hazlitt ran an article in *Newsweek* that same week which rather supported the same view, but he had a very different and much less vigorous approach. He pointed out that the United States was urging all sorts of other countries, including those that were going to get Marshall Plan money, to get together on lower tariffs and customs unions, so perhaps the U.S. ought to practise what it was preaching. If so, the nearest and easiest country to practise on was Canada. This sort of argument is familiar to every mother: "This medicine isn't nasty at all, dear; see, Mummy can take it without making a fuss!"

### Businessmen's Proposal

So the fact that *Life* and *Newsweek* said the same thing at the same time might have been just a coincidence. However other evidence of American interest in the matter keeps on turning up. The latest is a proposal, from an important group of businessmen from the U.S. who are meeting with a similar group from Canada, that "Joint Customs Union" should be the first subject for discussion. The suggestion is made that this seems "thoroughly feasible at the present time." It might not happen all at once; but tariffs should be taken off "progressively over a period that might range from five to ten years."

As a reward for this, Canada would apparently become eligible for a subsidy of some sort from Washington. "There could be a guaranteed amount of revenue for Canada equal to the maximum amount of revenues collected on imports. . . Such maximum amount might be . . . adjusted upward (on the basis of) . . . population, income . . ." etc., etc.

In view of this continuing and spreading interest in the United States, and the possibility of pressure from that quarter, it is worth while to review what Canadian papers said when *Life* made its original suggestion. A number of extracts are quoted below.

### Editors' Views

These extracts suggest that the great majority of Canadian editors are against the proposal. Out of a dozen English-language papers, including most of the largest dailies, only two are definitely favorable. A couple of others are more or less on the fence, saying that the matter deserves careful thought (a typical remark by an editor who is not prepared to do his own thinking). All the rest are against either definitely or violently.

The papers that oppose the plan are spread all across the country. One might expect that the Maritimes and Prairies, which seem to have gained least from Confederation, and which have always complained about our high protective tariff against American goods, would go out of their way to welcome the idea; but this has not happened. Objections come from Winnipeg and Halifax, as well as Montreal and Ottawa.

It is encouraging, however, to see how many editors say, as SATURDAY NIGHT has said, that opposition to complete customs union does *not* mean opposition to any further tariff reductions. A clear distinction is made between customs union under which we give up all control over our tariff—indeed under which the tariff and other economic policies of this continent would all be run from Washington—and lowered tariffs that will allow us to sell more in the United States, to pay our own way, to relieve our shortage of U.S. dollars, and to keep up our North American standard of living which so largely depends on buying things in U.S.A.

With this introduction let us look at what some of the editors actually say. The two papers in favor of customs union were the Vancouver *Sunday Sun* and the Saint John *Telegraph Journal*. The *Sun* took the line that Britain had been knocked out and was likely to be groggy for a long time, so we should find another champion to bet on:

"We can not blind ourselves to the fact that, as of today, Britain is bankrupt, although we all have the utmost faith that in the long pull she can come back. And, as of today, Canada has about reached the end of her ability to finance Britain. We could go along rather weakly, sticking to traditional lines, but unable to give very much practical help. Or we can face the facts. An economic tie-up with our nearest neighbor would be of tremendous advantage to both countries."

### Head in the Sand

The *Telegraph Journal* buries its head firmly in the sand with the bald statement that "The thing to remember is that a customs union—even a complete one—does not imply a political union." It then goes on to say:

"As *Life* points out, 'Canada's ties with Britain are of the heart, transcending the pocketbook.' An economic agreement with the United States would certainly not cut these ties, and should be viewed as a business proposition. The last time the issue was put forward, it was bedogged with sentiment. This should not be the case again."

The fence-sitters are the Montreal *Standard* and the Edmonton *Journal*. "Let's think about it for a while," says the former. "It will be a good thing for all aspects of the proposal to be thoroughly threshed out," says the latter.

### A Firm "No"

One of the clearest statements of the objections to the plan comes from the Winnipeg *Tribune*:

"In short, it would be well nigh impossible to have an economic union without a political union, and the latter is not desired by any great body of public opinion in Canada at this time.

"Leaving geographical considerations to one side, Canada's natural market is with Britain, Western Europe and other overseas countries which do not produce enough food for their own consumption. Our natural market is not with the U.S. which has surpluses of many of the same primary products which we sell in competition with them in the markets of the world. Under a customs union with the U.S., Canada would revert to the position of a hewer of wood and a drawer of water for an industrialized United States. We would conceivably largely pass out of the industrial picture and revert to our pioneer status of growing grain, producing livestock and felling timber for the processing plants and factories of the assembly line cities to the south of us. . . .

"Rather than promote a customs union, however, Canada should make every effort to induce American importers to take a greater volume of Canadian exports, or as a penalty, reduce the amount of Canadian buying south of the border."

A similar line is followed by the *Globe and Mail* of Toronto, which adds that "For Canada, then, the proposal offers no observable economic advantage." The Windsor *Daily Star* concludes that "By gradually increasing cooperation, through reduction or elimination of tariffs, etc., some of the benefits of a customs union could be obtained without any drastic step which might unduly disturb certain parts of our economy."

The Montreal *Gazette*, while not dismounting completely from the fence, seems to favor the same point of view.

### Too Much Hustle

Both the Ottawa papers think that *Life* is in too much of a hurry. Said the Journal, "*Life*, we fear, is too soon with too much." Said the *Citizen*:

"*Life*, with characteristic hustle, insists that 'the economic integration' of the two countries 'must be quick enough and thorough enough to rescue Canada.' It is a neighborly thought. But we do not need to be rescued. We have never been more prosperous, more powerful, more respected, more trusted by other nations, more capable of directing our financial and economic future ourselves. And from what are we to be 'rescued?' From a temporary shortage of United States dollars, due entirely to the dislocation of the world's economy by war.

"It seems an inadequate reason for national suicide."

The Saskatoon *Star Phoenix* takes an unusual but interesting line against customs union. It says that the attempt to bind Canada and the United States closer together, to the exclusion of the rest of the world, is a new form of American isolationism and opposed to broader aims for true international collaboration that both the United States and Canada have been working towards in recent years.

"*Life* magazine's proposal that we turn aside to a lesser goal is unattractive. At its heart, it is a form of hemispheric defence, based on the illusion of hemispheric insulation. The same fatal germ once almost destroyed American security. For the Canadian part, *Life* has asked: 'Who's against it, and why?' We are against it. And the reason is that the time is past when economic union with the U.S.A. would serve Canada's destiny. One can almost hear the political slogan now: 'Cooperation ever; Union never'."

### No Better Lot

But perhaps the most interesting comment of all comes from Halifax where the editor of the *Chronicle* warns against the plan and suggests that the lot of a remote New England State is no better than that of a Maritime Province:

"There are, however, serious considerations which would make Canadians hesitate to join their economies inextricably with that of the United States. Some of these are sentimental. They affect sovereignty and independence as well as established traditions of trade and commerce. They would entail fiscal re-organization on a scale not readily visualized. Though these considerations may in large part be ultimately invalid, they are extremely strong.

"There is, moreover, no guarantee that the close correlation of the Canadian economy with that of the United States would bring greater prosperity. The States of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, most comparable to the Maritime Provinces, are not industrially and commercially powerful merely because they form part of the Union."

THE BUSINESS ANGLE

# European Unity to Help Canada

By P. M. RICHARDS

MOST Canadians are interested in the Marshall Plan mainly because it promises to provide us with a good number of badly-needed U.S. dollars. But we have another reason for interest, of much greater long-term importance for a nation as dependent on foreign trade as Canada, and that is the expectation that it will create a firm economic base for European unity as well as immediate material progress. European unity has been talked about for centuries; today there's ground for hope that it will materialize at last. It's odd that if it does it will be due to the war and Soviet Russia. True, at first it will be a Western European union only, but that's a good beginning.

We tend to think only of this union's function as a barrier to Soviet aggression and not of its economic and political importance. In concentrating on Europe's present difficulties, it is easy to undervalue the very substantial assets which the sixteen Marshall Plan countries still possess. Mr. Robert L. Garner, vice-president of the World Bank, pointed out the other day that these countries have some 270,000,000 highly-skilled people, with educational background and technical know-how surpassed only in the United States, if anywhere. They have great traditions of personal freedom and representative government, a rich culture, and a wide experience in the commercial development and political administration of a large part of the world. Their basic productive capacity, in spite of all the damage caused by the war, compares favorably with that of the United States. None of the European countries, perhaps, can by itself occupy the position of world leadership which several of them have held in the past, but, collectively, they are one of the two wealthiest and most productive areas on earth.

### Substantial Progress in Recovery

Also most Canadians seem to be unaware of the progress made by these people in reconstruction. In spite of the terrible destruction of railway bridges, marshalling yards, rolling stock and other facilities, for example, the European railways carried more freight in 1947 than in 1938. At the middle of 1947 Marshall Plan Europe was building ships at a rate almost 50 per cent above the pre-war level. Their electric power output in 1947 was 31 per cent greater than pre-war. Even coal production on the Continent had climbed back from 41 per cent of pre-war in 1945 to 88 per cent by last October.

Despite all obstacles, industrial production in Great Britain, Belgium and Scandinavia was running at a higher level in 1947 than in 1937, and that of France and the Netherlands was close to pre-war levels. However, in Italy, Austria and Germany production was still substantially below pre-war.

But Europe is still far from fully recovered from the wounds of war. One of the chief factors retarding convalescence has been the widening political gulf between East and West, which slowed revival of the centuries-old exchange of Western Europe's manufactured goods for food and raw materials from the countries now in the Soviet bloc. No substitute supplies from the western hemisphere could fully replace food from the Danube granary, coal from Poland, Finnish timber products and other Eastern European goods.

### E.R.P. Depends on Restoration

Apparently success of the European Recovery Program will depend in considerable part upon some revival of this trade between Eastern and Western Europe. There are obviously many difficulties involved—the disruption of transport facilities, the existence of exchange controls which impose almost a barter system, and the increasing rigidity of trade restrictions at the Iron Curtain. Russia apparently is trying to redirect much of the trade of her satellites away from the West and thus shield them from possible contamination. But there are strong natural and historical ties between the economies of East and West which may prevail over political pressure.

Another big deterrent to European recovery has been the slowness of Germany's economic revival. Germany, and the Ruhr in particular, has long been the heart of the European economy. The continued low level of German production has made it impossible for the neighboring countries to obtain adequate supplies of steel, coal, chemicals and machinery, or to sell food, raw materials and manufactured products in the German market. Even apart from the physical destruction caused by the war, German recovery was hampered by the widening split between East and West and the growing confusion, indecision and insecurity of administration.

The recent unification of the western zones and their integration into the E.R.P. increases the hope that this area will again become a properly functioning part of Europe's economy. The split between the western zones and the Soviet-held zone is apparently final, but the West now knows where it stands and can build accordingly. Thus a strong basis for progress now exists, and Canada's trade outlook improves accordingly.

# Cripps' Deflationary Policy Not Enough

By JOHN L. MARSTON
*Saturday Night's Financial Correspondent in London*

**In his capacity as Britain's economic coordinator as well as Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps has tried to make his 1948-9 budget an arm of economic policy. But it does not, in Mr. Marston's opinion, bear out Sir Stafford's reputation for boldness for a deflationary policy cannot take the place of positive action towards recovery.**

*London.*

THE U.S.-European aid program was finally sanctioned a few days before Britain's 1948 Budget was presented. In so far as it will add to Britain's material resources without correspondingly increasing the volume of money it is, of course, deflationary.

Yet the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps, named inflation as the nation's most serious problem. He said that there would almost certainly be a net increase in inflationary tendencies this year as compared with last year, and that if inflationary tendencies were not controlled exports would suffer. In that way the crucial problem of the balance of payments would never be solved.

As soon as Marshall aid was granted, therefore, it was officially recognized that it would not solve Britain's problem, though it would, of course, ease it. The drain on gold and dollar reserves in the first half of 1948 is estimated at something over £220 millions. The Marshall aid so far granted, for one year, is likely to make something like £350 millions available to Britain—and it will not be available to buy materials which Britain needs and which are scarce in U.S.

Obviously, the Marshall Plan can do no more than help the recipients to help themselves.

So Britain's peak-crisis Budget proceeded to tackle Britain's own problems. There have been some differences of opinion how far it succeeded, but one fact is generally admitted: coming at so critical a time, and from a Chancellor who has a reputation for boldness, its net effects are curiously limited.

Remissions on income tax costing about £100 millions are mainly counterbalanced by increased indirect taxes (tobacco £20 millions, alcohol £45 millions) and by a higher betting tax (£11 millions). However, adjustments to purchase tax (which was, of course, the medium through which indirect taxation was greatly extended during the war) leave the purchasing public better off to the amount of about £24 millions.

The only serious novelty is a "once-for-all" tax on investment income which is intended to represent a modified capital levy, as it will have to be paid largely out of capital. It is calculated to yield £105 millions in a full year, and so, if regarded as a capital levy, is not unduly onerous.

The actual result of 1947-48 was a new British record in budgetary surpluses, £636 millions (just double the estimate), on the not wholly satisfactory accounting procedure which the previous Chancellor, Mr. Dalton, adopted. The aim this time is to retain, and increase, the surplus. On conventional lines, the surplus for 1948-49 is at the staggeringly high level of £790 millions, which is about the amount of the whole Budget totals preceding the rearmament phase just before the war. The real net surplus, after allowing "below-the-line" capital expenditure, is £330 millions, on a total Budget which in these inflationary times is around £3¾ thousand millions. The £330 millions is the disinflationary element in the nation's finances.

The Chancellor has been praised for refusing to relinquish this surplus. He has, indeed, kept his inflation thesis firmly in mind in all his calculations. The concessions on purchase tax, for instance, though seeming to run counter to the idea of syphoning away excess purchasing-power, are intended to promote a downward trend of prices which will discourage claims for higher wages.

But withdrawal of purchasing-power is only the negative side of a deflationary policy. It is never a good substitute for positive action in expanding the supply of goods which will absorb the excess. This aspect of the matter has also received the Chancellor's attention, but with more questionable results.

Very roughly, incomes between £500 and £2,000 a year are likely to gain more from direct tax remissions than they lose in increased indirect taxation. The higher income-groups will suffer, for one year, from the special tax on unearned income. The lower-paid wage-earners will find that the increase in the cost of beer and tobacco absorbs more of their income than they gain from the raising of the taxable limit, which releases half-a-million people from liability to income tax.

## No Positive Incentive

Apart from adjustment in allowances to married women who go out to work, which is designed to expand the total labor-force, there is no positive incentive to raise production, at a time when such incentive is needed as never before.

The 1948-49 Budget broke from tradition in one important respect. Because Sir Stafford Cripps is not only Chancellor of the Exchequer but also supreme economic coordinator, his review of the position this April covered not only the financial scene but the general economic scene as well.

In drawing away some purchasing-power which is no longer represented by dwindling supplies of goods Sir Stafford Cripps has competently adapted finances in a deflationary sense. He had his mind fixed, of course, on the perilous possibilities of rising costs and weakening sellers' markets. But since a budgetary surplus (real as well as apparent) had already been achieved, Sir Stafford's main positive task was to promote active recovery, such as would enable the country to survive independently of outside aid within a few years.


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NOTICE is hereby given that a dividend of twenty-five cents per share upon the paid-up capital stock of this Bank has been declared for the current quarter and will be payable at the Bank and its branches on and after Tuesday, the first day of June next, to shareholders of record at the close of business on the 30th day of April, 1948.

By order of the Board.
JAMES MUIR
General Manager.

Montreal, Que., April 13, 1948.



**BANK OF MONTREAL**
ESTABLISHED 1817
DIVIDEND NO. 340

NOTICE is hereby given that a DIVIDEND of TWENTY CENTS per share upon the paid-up Capital Stock of this Institution has been declared for the current quarter, payable on and after TUESDAY, the FIRST day of JUNE next, to Shareholders of record at close of business on 30th April, 1948.

By Order of the Board,
GORDON R. BALL,
General Manager.

Montreal, 13th April, 1948.



**Standard Chemical Company**
LIMITED

DIVIDEND—COMMON STOCK

Notice is hereby given that a quarterly dividend of ten cents (.10c) per share on the issued common shares of the Company has this day been declared payable on the 1st day of June, 1948 to Shareholders of record at the close of business on the 30th day of April, 1948.

By Order of the Board,
G. MILLWARD,
Secretary.

April 16th, 1948.



**Standard Chemical Company**
LIMITED

DIVIDEND—PREFERRED STOCK

Notice is hereby given that a quarterly dividend of one and one-quarter percent (1¼%) on the issued 5% cumulative redeemable preferred shares of the Company has this day been declared payable on the 1st day of June, 1948 to Shareholders of record at the close of business on the 30th day of April, 1948.

By Order of the Board,
G. MILLWARD,
Secretary.

April 16th, 1948.


NEWS OF THE MINES

# Ontario's Premier Is Optimistic Re Expanded Output for Mines

By JOHN M. GRANT

HAS MINING in Ontario a promising future? Once ore is removed from the ground it is gone forever and already the value of minerals produced in this province has reached the staggering total of $5,000,000,000. Today it is our second basic industry and in a radio address last Friday evening Premier George Drew told his listeners, "there is plenty of evidence that we still have vast mineral resources for the years ahead and that we may confidently expect still greater annual mineral production, provided our national financial and economic policies do not limit the opportunity to market these resources." The Premier in his 15-minute address briefly outlined mining activities in Ontario, and the scope of the work being done by the hard-working and qualified experts of the Department of Mines, who are providing the guidance and essential information upon which the future development as well as the present stability of this great industry depends, and paid tribute to the constructive leadership of the man who directs the department, Hon. Leslie Frost.

•

"We have sound reasons for optimism," Premier Drew told his radio audience, pointing out that the depletion of mineral resources in other parts of the world is bound to have the effect of increasing our own production in what is "one of the richest metal areas in the world." Another reason, he said, was the recent discovery of new deposits of important metals not previously mined in Ontario in any considerable quantity. An interesting example of this is iron ore, and he went on to add that the United States, which is the world's largest consumer of this essential raw material, is running low in its own supplies of high-grade ore. "On the other hand, Ontario produced more iron ore last year than in any previous year of our mining history, and our geologists have proved that the known deposits in this province contain hundreds of millions of tons of high quality iron ore. Because of this great development, the Department of Mines is engaging technicians who specialize exclusively in this metal and in the geology of iron formation," and Mr. Drew went on to say that a huge iron ore smelter is soon to be erected in Hamilton, "and that its construction will mark the dawn of a great new mining era in Ontario."

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Impressive as has been the past history of Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co., of Canada—one of the world's largest mining and smelting enterprises — the 1947 performance far surpassed all previous years, due to the great demand for base metals at home and abroad, and the ascent of prices to new peaks. All records were overtopped last year by net profits, sales of products, dividend payments, net working capital, production of fertilizer and allowances made for the welfare of employees. The year's net profit was $37,278,341, equal to $11.38 per share, as against

BUSINESS AND MARKET FORECAST

# Market Verdict Ahead!

BY HARUSPEX

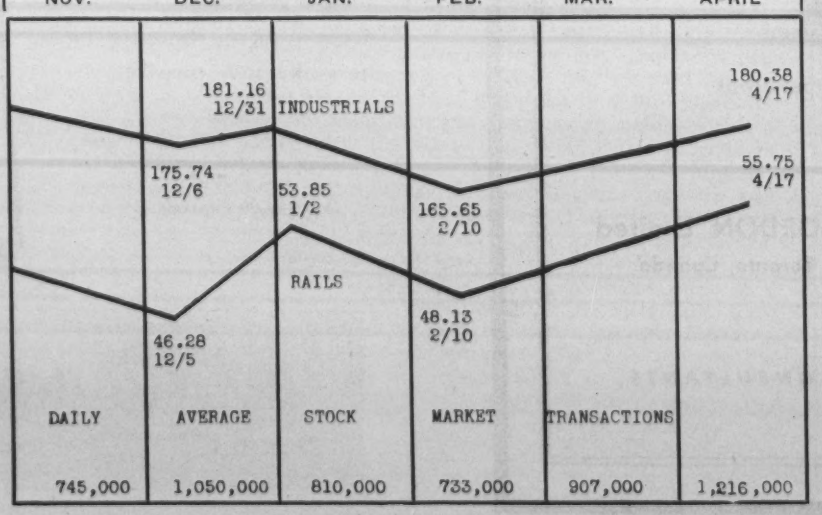
**THE LONG-TERM N.Y. AND CANADIAN MARKET TREND: While the decline of 1946-7 went some distance toward discounting maladjustments in the economic picture, evidence is lacking that a point of fundamental market turnabout has yet been reached. Since July 1946 the industrial average has been in an intermediate downward trend, with rail average following a contrary course.**

Over the fourteen trading days to April 3, the stock market, as reflected by the Dow-Jones industrial average, registered a 13-point advance. During the following eleven days; that is, from April 4 to 16, inclusive, the industrial average moved up by about 3 points. This marked change in market action from wide movement to relative stabilization suggests that, in the April 4 to 16 interval, stocks have been undergoing (1) distribution or (2) consolidation preceding further rise.

Whether recent action represents distribution and hence the approximate end of the rally, or consolidation for resumption of the advance, should soon be disclosed. If consolidation, rather than distribution, has been under way, then a try by the industrial average at its critical July rally peak 186.85 would be in order. Decisive penetration of such rally peak, as would be disclosed by a close in the industrial average at or above 187.86, would confirm recent strength in the rail average. Under such circumstances, a major change in the stock market's trend to an upward direction will have been confirmed, from the technical approach, and eventually higher prices would be in order.

We question that such a development is in process although, in view of the length of time that has elapsed since the 1946 decline got under way, and because of recent economic developments, including U.S.A. tax reduction, inauguration of ERP, and increased rearmament, we feel the background for advance is more favorable than when two similar attempts at a bull market advance were made in 1947. If the industrial average, however, does signal a major uptrend, as discussed in the preceding paragraph, we believe the market's verdict should be accepted. Under such conditions, gradual increase in stock holdings would seem advisable.

DOW-JONES STOCK AVERAGES





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By order of the board,
Frank Hay,
Secretary

Toronto, April 16, 1948


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$23,323,168, or $7.12 per share in 1946, and if a special dividend of $6,138,800 from the subsidiary West Kootenay Power & Light Co. had been added to the 1947 income, instead of being added to the earned surplus account, net profits would have amounted to $13.25 per share. Sales of all products climbed to the unequalled total of $100,580,455, as compared with $72,872,214 in 1946, $51,034,216 in 1945, and $42,905,161 in 1944. Net working capital at the close of the period stood at $54,484,101, as compared with $43,141,862 at December 31, 1946, an increase of $11,342,239, despite a substantial upturn in expenditures on expansion and capital account, and payment of close to $12,300,000 more in dividends than in the preceding year.

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The Sullivan mine of Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. is its main property, and though it was discovered 56 years ago and has produced 45,000,000 tons of ore to date, is still a young mine. While estimates of its total ore reserves are not published they were raised last year for the third time in succession, and are believed sufficient for well over 20-years' operations. The tonnage of ore mined during the year was 2,252,729, which compares with 2,307,532 in 1946, while ore reserves were increased about 2,500,000 tons over those at the end of the preceding 12 months. A slight decrease was apparent in grade of reserves, but there was a substantial increase in metal content (80,000 tons) over a year previous. Development work was about the same as in the preceding year, and an even greater development program is planned for 1948, to overcome the lag because of war years. Good progress is reported in the company's rehabilitation and expansion program and it is expected the whole project will be finished before the end of the year.

Operations have been suspended and the bulk of the mining plant sold, James Ingram, president of Laguerre Gold Mines, in the Larder Lake area, states in the annual report, as a result of disappointments in efforts to prove commercial orebodies. Exploration of the 760-foot level failed to reveal the downward extension of ore indicated by previous diamond drilling.

•

The plant expansion program at Kerr-Addison Gold Mines has made excellent progress and a determined effort is being made to reach the objective of 4,000 tons per day by the end of 1948, James Y. Murdoch, president, states in the annual report. Net earnings in 1947 were 41.23 cents per share compared with 29.27 cents in the previous year. The increase resulted from the treatment of 2,137 tons per day against 1,457 tons per day in 1946, although the average recovery was only $6.73 per ton compared with $6.94 in the preceding year. Ore reserves at the year end, above the 1,450 foot level were some 8,168,000 tons averaging $7 per ton, a decrease of 300,000 tons from the previous 12 months, while partially developed ore between the 1,450 and 1,600-foot horizons is shown at 2,250,000 tons, an increase of 30,000 tons over the estimate at December 31, 1946. The balance sheet shows that current assets, less liabilities, at the year end of the previous year, and Mr. Murdoch points out that the directors feel that liquid assets and current earnings, after dividends, will adequately provide for the expenditure necessary to complete the plant expansion.

•

With a view to accurately determining the average grade of ore My-Lamaque Mines, in Bourlamaque township, Quebec, has arranged to have Siscoe Mines mill the ore from the development on the 200-foot level. The ore, amounting to some 700 tons, will be treated at the rate of 50 tons per day. Recent underground work carried out under a limited contract has been completed. If mill test results prove satisfactory a permanent plant will be installed and underground development resumed.

•

The large reserves of excellent ore, with every prospect of more than doubling the life by new discoveries, ensure successful operations at Bralorne Mines—British Columbia's largest producer of gold—for more than a decade to come, Ira B. Joralemon, consulting engineer, states in the annual report. As tonnage increases, the profit in 1948 and succeeding years should be much greater, he adds, although it will not equal the pre-war profit unless there is an increase in the price of gold. Net earnings in 1947 before depletion totalled $335,633, equal to 27 cents per share, as against $197,148, or 15.81 cents per share in the previous year when a strike closed the mine for five months. In order to be conservative, in the present estimate of ore reserves 65,000 tons formerly carried in the regular estimate have been transferred to the marginal ore estimate. Ore reserves at the beginning of 1948 were estimated at 986,000 tons grading 0.53 oz. gold per ton, as against 1,070,000 tons averaging 0.51 oz. a year previous. Marginal material not included above, consists of 316,000 tons averaging 0.21 oz. per ton, as compared with 230,000 tons, of a like grade, at the beginning of 1947. Summit King Mines, wholly owned Nevada subsidiary, was reopened in February of this year.

•

A net profit of $2,113,508, equivalent to $1.08 per share, is reported by Dome Mines Ltd. for 1947, a period in which production, earnings and ore reserves all improved. Earnings compared with $2,051,728, or $1.05 a share in the preceding year, per share profits being based on the shares outstanding in the hands of the public. At the end of the year net working capital totalled $6,490,513 as against $6,912,549 at the close of the previous year. Not included in these figures are investments in subsidiary companies, nor an advance of $435,000 during the year to Campbell Red Lake Mines. Ore reserves at the close of the year were estimated at 2,508,000 tons, an increase of 10,000 tons for the period. In connection with its subsidiary, Campbell Red Lake Mines, C. W. Michel, president, states underground development gave sufficient evidence of probable ore reserves to warrant proceeding with plans for a mill.

•

Very satisfactory progress was made and there was a substantial upbuilding in a number of its assets, J. H. C. Waite, president, states in the annual report of Mining Corporation of Canada for 1947, and he adds "we confidently believe that we can look forward to this progress and expansion continuing. "With income from investments and dividends above the previous 12 months and, with expenditures lower, profits for the year amounted to $326,771, or 15.30 cents per share, as against $159,286, or 7.46 cents per share in 1946. Liquid assets at the end of the year were lower, but this was largely due to additional advances to Torbrit Silver Mines. This controlled subsidiary in British Columbia is expected to enter the production ranks before the end of 1948, and the outlook is favorable for its other subsidiaries and companies in which participations are held.

•

The most profitable year in its history is reported by Normetal Mining Corporation for 1947, and with the present outlook for metal prices it is expected to do as well or better this year. Net profits amounted to 28.63 cents per share as compared with 11.98 cents in the preceding period. The tonnage of ore milled was the highest since 1942. Net working capital position improved considerably, and at the end of the year current assets exceeded current liabilities by $3,304,583, a jump of $866,907 from a year previous. Ore reserves showed a gain, climbing to 1,760,000 tons (grading 3.64% copper and 7.63% zinc) from 1,716,000 tons at the end of 1946. A contract for the sale of the total 1948 zinc production has been made with a smelter in the United States, and part of the 1948 copper has been sold and contracts for the remainder are now being negotiated.

•

If deliveries of steel and equipment are not further delayed it is hoped that production at Quemont Mining Corporation will commence in the spring of 1949. While the first treatment unit has been designed for 2,000 tons per day, it is probable that this rate will be exceeded. The ultimate cost of reaching production will be greater than originally estimated due to the continually rising costs, but no difficulty is anticipated in providing further funds when these are required. Since March 31st last year ore reserves have been increased by 431,000 tons and now total 9,431,000 tons, indicating a life of at least 14 years at 2,000 tons per day. Further the possibilities for finding additional ore are considered to be exceptionally good. Preparations are underway for deepening the No. 2 shaft from 1,142 to 2,140 feet, or more.

# The Stock Analyst

By W. GRANT THOMSON

SUCCESSFUL investment depends on knowing two things: (1) What to buy (or sell) (2) When to buy (or sell). The stock Analyst—a study of Canadian stock habits—answers the first question. An Investment Formula provides a definite plan for the second.

All active and well distributed stocks (with a few minor exceptions) advance or decline with the Averages. The better grade investment stocks do not normally move as fast as the averages, while on the other hand the very speculative issues have a relative velocity more than twice or three times as great.

The STOCK ANALYST divides stocks into three Groups according to their normal velocity in relation to the Averages.

The Factors affecting the longer term movements of a company's shares are ascertained from a study of their normal habits. Predominant Factors are shown as:

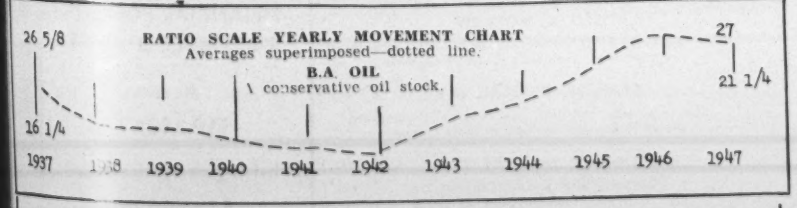
GROUP "A"—Investment Stocks — 1. FAVORABLE
GROUP "B"—Speculative Investments — 2. AVERAGE or
GROUP "C"—Speculations — 3. UNATTRACTIVE

A stock rated as Favorable has considerably more attraction than one with a lower rating, but it is imperative that purchases be made, even of stocks rated Favorable, with due regard to timing because few stocks will go against the trend of the Averages.

The Investment Index is the average yield of all stocks expressed as a percentage of the yield of any stock, thus showing at a glance the relative investment value placed on it by the "bloodless verdict of the market-place."

## BRITISH AMERICAN OIL CO. LTD.

| | | | | Averages | | B. A. Oil | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PRICE 31 Mar. 48 | - | $21.75 | | | | | |
| YIELD | - | 4.6% | Last 1 month | Up | 4.5% | Up | .2% |
| INVESTMENT INDEX | - | 121 | Last 12 months | Down | 6.1% | Down | 13.0% |
| GROUP | - | "A" | 1942-46 range | Up | 160.0% | Up | 121.1% |
| RATING | - | Average | 1946-48 range | Down | 28.2% | Down | 26.1% |




SUMMARY:—It is some considerable time since the shares of British American Oil Company Limited have been reviewed in these columns because they do not, normally, attract undue attention. The price pattern of B.A. Oil affords fairly substantial proof of the accuracy of the theory which serves as an introduction to each of these analyses. Might we draw attention once again to the second paragraph above and particularly to the statement "that all active and well distributed stocks (with a few minor exceptions) advance or decline with the averages."

Many shareholders are well satisfied to hold a stock with a long term record of consistent dividend payments, and this certainly has been the case with B.A. Oil, as the current one dollar per share per annum has been paid for some considerable time. While this feature has its merits it has not afforded undue assistance to shareholders who have had to meet a very greatly increased cost of living during recent years.

As far as can be ascertained from a study of its stock habits and from the Investment Index, there seems every reason to expect B.A. Oil to be a satisfactory stock to hold if one is looking for a conservative type of common stock investment.

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ABOUT INSURANCE

# Insurance Business a Big Factor in the National Economy

By GEORGE GILBERT

**Some indication of the important part performed by insurance in the country's economy may be gathered from the figures showing the extent to which our people are taking advantage of the financial protection which it affords against the hazards, changes and chances of business and life.**

**It is not to be overlooked that those who entrust so much of their money to the private enterprise competitive institution of insurance have more than an academic interest in preserving it against destruction or spoilation in the name of socialization or nationalization.**

ALTHOUGH to the average person who takes out a policy, insurance is nothing more than a device to satisfy a personal or business need, that conception does not by any means tell the whole story of its real value and utility. It must be admitted that insurance has become so interwoven with the material interests of the people generally that it now forms an important element in our social system. It cannot be properly evaluated unless it is set against its economic background and related with the results of its impact upon economic life.

Economic principles have been receiving special attention in recent years, and the rank and file of the population have become interested in the subject, with the result that politicians have been using the economic rather than the patriotic appeal, while the public have likewise become increasingly appreciative of the value of insurance as a means of financial protection against the various hazards of business and life. This is evidenced by the large and growing volume of insurance of all kinds now in force throughout the country.

## Life Business

For example, according to advance figures released by the Department of Insurance, Ottawa, these were 8,377,237 life policies in force in Canada in Dominion registered companies at the end of 1947 for a net total of $11,900,274,930, compared with 8,121,266 policies for $10,812,392,964 at the end of the previous year. Of the total number of policies in force at the end of 1947, 4,229,966 were ordinary policies for a total of $9,004,293,579; 4,141,105 were industrial policies for a total of $1,411,349,890, and 6,166 were group policies for a total of $1,484,631,281. Of the policies in force at the end of 1946, 3,974,167 were ordinary policies for a total of 8,215,144,153; 4,141,772, were industrial policies for $1,362,447,955, and 5,327 were group policies for a total of $1,234,800,756.

In 1947 the total net premium of these companies in Canada was $304,486,057, compared with $283,938,079 in the previous year, while the consideration for annuities amounted to $41,672,712, compared with $38,959,942 in 1946. Net amounts paid by these companies in Canada in 1947 under death claims, matured endowments, disability claims and guaranteed dividends totalled $102,239,849, compared with $98,846,258 in the previous year, while the net payments to annuitants amounted to $5,554,692, compared with $4,792,115 in 1946. Outstanding claims under their contracts in Canada at the end of 1947 amounted to $21,890,792, compared with $20,305,769 at the end of the previous year.

Besides the life insurance policies in force in Canada in these companies, there were 306,350 policies in force in this country at the end of 1947 in fraternal benefit societies operating under Dominion registry, for a total amount of $285,277,281, compared with 295,562 policies for a total of $268,307,234 at the end of the previous year. Their premium income in Canada in 1947 amounted to $5,335,256, compared with $4,797,966 in 1946, while the benefits paid here amounted to $5,048,470, compared with $4,867,281 in 1946. Outstanding claims under their policies in Canada at the end of 1947 totalled $693,641, compared with $637,474 at the end of 1946.

## Fire Business

Respecting the volume of fire insurance in force in this country, government figures show that the net amount of risk in Canada at the end of 1947 in Dominion registered companies was $20,284,524,880, compared with $17,376,429,865 in force at the end of the previous year. The net premiums written by these companies in Canada in 1947 amounted to $86,770,603, compared with $68,825,470 in 1946, while their registered or licensed reinsurance totalled $41,661,892, compared with $31,516,014 in the previous year.

Their gross written premiums less return premiums in Canada in 1947 amounted to $128,432,495, compared with $100,341,484 in the previous year, while the gross amount of the new policies issued or renewed was $22,107,569,225, compared with $16,783,391,679 in 1946. Earned premiums in 1947 totalled $73,166,322, compared with $61,259,614 in the previous year, while the net claims incurred totalled $39,481,376, compared with $35,379,627 in 1946. At the end of 1947 the reserve for unsettled claims amounted to $11,347,392, compared with $10,279,107 at the end of 1946.

With respect to personal accident insurance, the net premium written in 1947 in Canada by Dominion registered companies totalled $5,590,130, compared with $5,035,928 in 1946, while the net claims incurred amounted to $1,719,659, compared with $1,437,028 in the previous year. Reserves for unsettled claims amounted to $1,133,322, compared with $985,373 at the end of 1946.

## Liability Business

Public liability insurance premiums written by these companies in Canada last year totalled $5,718,008, compared with $4,594,548 in 1946, while the net claims incurred amounted to $1,818,924, compared with $1,493,838 in 1946. Reserves for unsettled claims were $2,581,481 at the end of 1947, compared with $2,185,366 at the end of 1946.

Employers' liability insurance premiums written in Canada last year by these companies totalled $1,991,209, compared with $1,653,382 in 1946, while the net claims incurred were $572,191 compared with $594,761 in 1946. Reserves for unsettled claims were $980,076, compared with $1,025,749 at the end of the previous year.

Their combined accident and sickness insurance premiums in Canada last year amounted to $18,417,783, compared with $14,132,417 in 1946, while the net claims incurred totalled $10,921,459, compared with $8,264,388 in the previous year. Reserved for unsettled claims at the end of 1947 were $2,913,930, compared with 2,159,032 at the end of the previous year.

Their automobile insurance premiums in Canada in 1947 totalled $47,839,794, compared with $33,747,874 in 1946, while the net claims incurred amounted to $24,852,777, compared with $17,291,249 in the previous year. Reserves for unsettled claims at the end of 1947 were $17,456,770, compared with $12,846,904 at the end of 1946.

# Inquiries

Editor, About Insurance:

Are any figures available showing the increase which has taken place in the amount of automobile insurance business transacted in Canada during the past couple of years by the Canadian, the British and the United States and other foreign companies licensed here, and also show-

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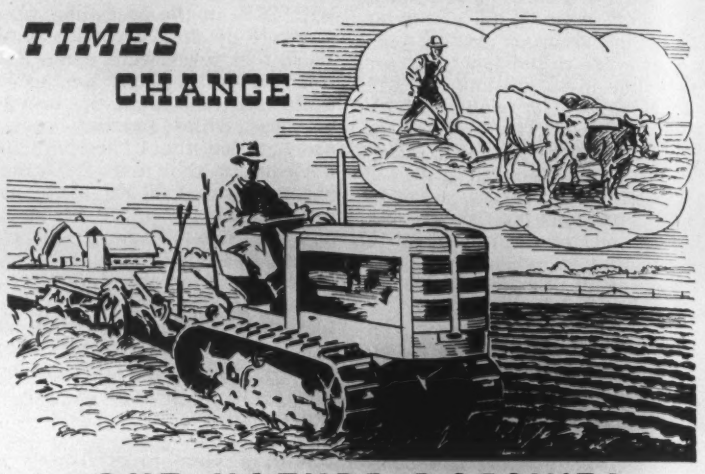
A PROGRESSIVE CANADIAN COMPANY

TIMES CHANGE



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W. M. O'CONNOR — President, National Trust Company Limited; Director, Central Canada Loan & Savings Company
K. M. PRINGLE — President, Dominion Securities Corporation Limited
G. STUBINGTON — President and Managing Director
KENNETH THOM — General Manager of the Company
HENRY J. WYATT — Director, Marine Midland Trust Co. of N.Y.; Executive Vice-President, Crum & Forster, N.Y.
FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 1947
Assets $19,780,573
Liabilities to the Public $13,825,710
Capital $1,400,000
Surplus above Capital $4,554,863
Losses paid since organization $152,691,301
HEAD OFFICE — TORONTO
Branches and Agencies throughout the World
7-9

ing what the loss ratio has been on the business during these years?

G. M. D., Welland, Ont.

According to advanced figures recently released by the Department of Insurance, Ottawa, with respect to the business transacted last year in Canada by the companies operating under Dominion registry, the net automobile insurance premiums written by Canadian companies in 1947 amounted to $20,291,824, compared with $14,590,191 in 1946, while the net losses incurred were $10,758,944, a loss ratio of 53.02 per cent, compared with $7,424,757 in 1946, a loss ratio of 50.89 per cent. The net premiums written in Canada by the British companies in 1947 were $14,834,908, compared with $9,935,738 in 1946, while the net losses incurred were $7,439,651, a loss ratio of 50.15 per cent, compared with $4,977,516 in 1946, a loss ratio of 50.10 per cent. The net premiums written in Canada by the United States and other foreign companies in 1947 were $12,713,002, compared with $9,221,945 in 1946, while the net losses incurred were $6,654,182, a loss ratio of 52.34 per cent, compared with $4,888,976 in 1946, a loss ratio of 53.01 per cent. The total net automobile insurance premiums written by all these companies in Canada in 1947 were $47,839,794, compared with $33,747,874 in 1946, while the total net losses incurred were $24,852,777, a loss ratio of 51.95 per cent, compared with $17,291,249 in 1946, a loss ratio of 51.24 per cent.

•

Editor, About Insurance:

I would like to get some information about a company called the American Reserve Insurance Company. How long has it been in business, what is its capitalization, and what are its assets and liabilities in Canada? Has it a Government deposit here for the protection of Canadian policyholders?

F.T.C., London, Ont.

American Reserve Insurance Company, with head office in New York and Canadian head office in Toronto, was formed in 1926 by the amalgamation of the American Insurance Company of New York and the Union Reserve Insurance Company, and since that year it has been doing business in Canada under Dominion Registry. It has a paid up capital of $1,000,000. Latest published government figures show that its total assets in Canada at the end of 1946 were $297,471, while its total liabilities in this country amounted to $145,531 showing an excess of assets in Canada over liabilities in Canada of $133,940. Its total income in Canada in 1946 was $147,151, while its claims and expenses incurred in this country amount to $169,037. Its government deposit at Ottawa for the sole protection of Canadian policyholders was $199,500. The company is safe to insure with, and all claims are readily collectable.

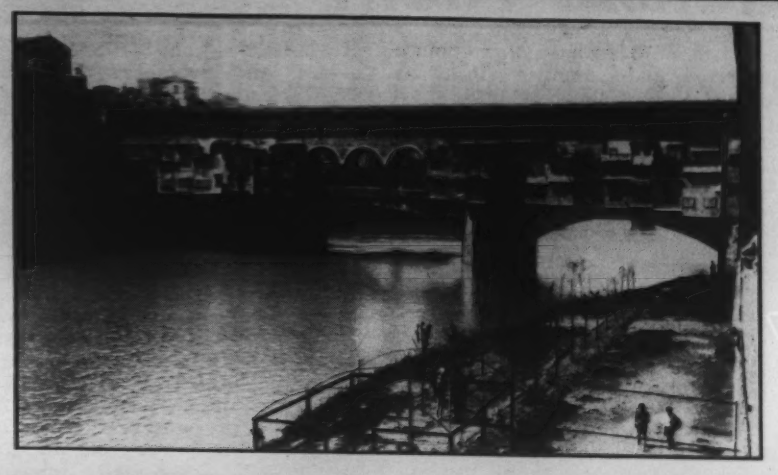
•

Editor, About Insurance:

Can you give me any information about a company named Maryland Insurance Company? Is this company still in business and is it licensed in Canada? If so, what are its assets and liabilities in this country, and has it a Government deposit for the protection of Canadian policyholders?

M. G. T., Ottawa, Ont.

Maryland Insurance Company transacted business in Canada under Dominion licence from 1925 until April 1, 1946, when it was merged with the Niagara Fire Insurance Company under the name of the latter company. The Niagara Fire was incorporated in 1850 and has been doing business in Canada under Dominion licence since 1912. Its head office is in New York and its Canadian head office in Montreal. Latest published Government figures show that its total admitted assets in Canada at the end of 1946 were $954,616, while its total liabilities in this country amounted to $324,041, showing an excess of assets in Canada over liabilities in Canada of $630,505. Its Government deposit at Ottawa for the sole protection of Canadian policyholders amounted to $713,350. Its total income in Canada in 1946 was $411,961, while its total expenditure amounted to $466,914.



**Heavy traffic has been banned from Florence's 14th century bridge, the Ponte Vecchio, to preserve it. The bridge's roof was added in 1565.**


**NOTICE**

is hereby given that the UNION MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY has received from the Department of Insurance, Ottawa, Certificate of Registry No. C1125, authorizing it to transact in Canada the business PERSONAL ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE in addition to Life Insurance for which it is already registered.

W. M. ANDERSON,
Chief Agent.

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# MODERATION

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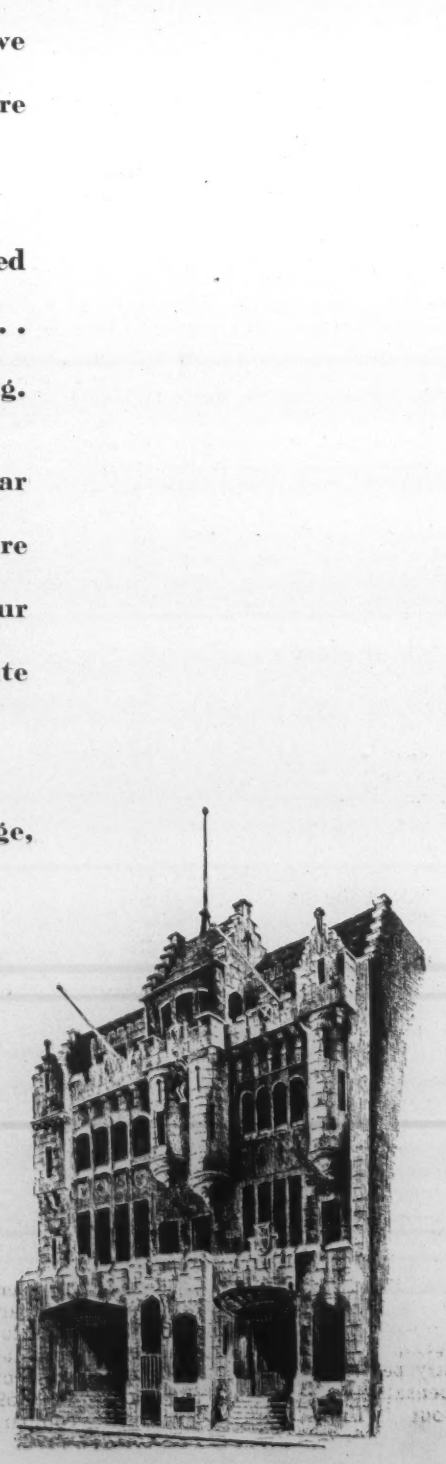
**True, we are a young country. In less than a century we have risen from colonial youth to nationhood of a stature enjoyed by no other people of our numbers.**

**Canada has earned this. Through the years we have kept our sense of values . . . been moderate in our pleasures . . . moderate in our thinking.**

**Today, we continue to bear ourselves with the self-respect of a moderate people. We are moderate in our spending, in our thinking . . . moderate in our pleasures, moderate in the enjoyment of whisky . . . moderate in all things.**

**We are young, yes. But we have come of age, for moderation is the wisdom of maturity.**

*Men who Think of Tomorrow*
*Practice Moderation Today!*



**THE HOUSE OF SEAGRAM**

# B. C. Works Peat Bogs For a New Industry

By HARRY GREGSON

**In British Columbia peat moss, used by poultrymen and horticulturalists, is a new prospering industry and produces half of the nation's output. Before the war it had to be imported from Holland and Germany. Now the scientific manufacture of bog moss provides Canadians with some very wet jobs.**

THERE may be wetter jobs than jet-pumping a wet bog in pouring rain, but the men who extract peat moss from B.C.'s bogs around Ladner, don't believe it. Making wet bogs still wetter so that poultry houses, lawns and gardens can be dryer is a paradox of this new industry which produces more than half of the $1,500,000 output of peat moss in Canada annually.

Poultrykeepers used to import their peat moss from Holland and Germany. This peat moss was dusty and inferior in quality. Discovery of deposits in British Columbia hastened the day of scientific exploitation.

Main plant constituent of a bog is Sphagnum, a spore which swells with water, bursts its shell and puts forth a slender, branching, many celled green thread. As the old plant dies, new threads make a new layer, press down the previous growth and thus add every season to the growth of the bog. A bog, which many regard as dead, is a very much alive organism.

Difficulty until recent years was separating the sphagnum from dirt, sticks and other decaying vegetable matter. With the war came a huge demand for peat moss not only for horticultural and poultry uses but for the manufacture of magnesium, which took a quarter of the 64,500 tons' output. When war contracts were cancelled, the peat moss industry, confronted with high wages, was threatened with bankruptcy.

Then came a new idea—to mechanically process the bogs. It has wrought a revolution. Nowadays gigantic hydraulic pumps jet the bog and reduce it to a liquid, seething mass. This mass runs along artificially constructed channels through screens and filters, the heavier, foreign material sinking to the bottom in process. The pulp residue which reaches the factory is treated in the same way as wood pulp for paper making. It goes into a huge machine, which dries it, rolls it and turns it out in beautiful clean sheets, ready for baling.

### Ancient Moss

Moss which once felt the tread of prehistoric monsters is again seeing the light of day after an interval of many thousands of years for jet pumps get at moss which is uneconomical to work by ordinary hand methods. The plant is the only one of its kind in Canada.

Moss produced this way is not limited to the poultry run, lawn or horticulturalist. Scientists are experimenting with surgical dressings, deodorant pads, and linoleum filler made from peat moss. A great market is seen for it as packing material for the shipment of perishable food stuffs, flowers and explosives.

Seventy men work in all weathers the year round at Ladner, scene of B.C.'s largest peat bog. They adjust the pumps, wade into mud and clear channels for the flowing pulp, rake the channels with outsize rakes to clear away obstructions to the flow. Water flows beneath their feet, around their feet and in winter also comes down in torrents from the skies. But they like their job. Regular work, an open air life and in spring and summer the sweet, slightly perfumed air of the bog are compensations. In summer a sharp look-out is kept for fire because peat sets up spontaneous combustion which could easily lead to disaster for peat reserves and the plant. Waste water is diverted in hot weather from the plant to the bog to keep it thoroughly wetted.

Peat moss is not the only moss with a future. Moss from the Queen Charlotte Islands is shipped to California for use by florists. White forest moss is specially suitable for packing lilies and in display of other white flowers. Lighter than cork, it can be treated to serve as waterproofing material or for life-saving equipment. It was used in the First World War for bandaging wounds and padding splints.

Moss, neglected by mankind except as a treatment for liver ailments, is now on the move. Science is delving into the bogs to enrich the knowledge and wellbeing of those who dwell above the ground.

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## Company Reports

### Metropolitan Life

AT THE top, with only its own record to beat the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company continues each year to reach higher peaks of achievement in spreading the benefits of insurance protection throughout Canada and the United States. It has been doing business in this country since 1872, and has long occupied a leading position in the business here. At the end of 1947 the number of its policyholders in Canada was 2,340,000, so that about one of every five Canadians is a Metropolitan policyholder. The amount of life insurance they held with the company was $2,083,391,707, compared with $1,957,785,490 at the end of 1946. Of the total in force in Canada, 58 per cent is owned by ordinary policyholders, 31 per cent by Industrial policyholders and 11 per cent by Group policyholders.

Paid-for life insurance issued by the company in Canada in 1947 totalled $209,634,649, compared with $217,564,850 in the previous year. Payments to Canadian policyholders and their beneficiaries last year amounted to $36,222,913 in death claims, matured policies and other payments, compared with $33,891,087 in 1946. Payments were made in Canada last year at the rate of $343.61 a minute of each business day, and of the total amount 69 per cent was paid to living policyholders. The total amount paid to Canadians by the Metropolitan since it entered Canada, plus the amount now invested in Canada, exceeds the total premiums received from Canadians by more than $306,000,000. Metropolitan's total investments in Canada at the end of 1947 amounted to $480,303,977, of which 51 per cent is in Dominion of Canada Bonds.

Total assets of the company at the end of 1947 were $8,548,422,601, compared with $8,045,432,384 at the end of the previous year. Its total obligations to policyholders, beneficiaries and others were $8,048,865,244, showing general surplus funds over policy reserves and all liabilities of $499,557,356, compared with $496,982,281 at the end of 1946.

### Steel Co. of Canada

THE annual report of the Steel Company of Canada, Limited, for 1947, shows a wide improvement in net earnings for the period as compared with those for the previous year when an extended strike among the company's workers interfered seriously with production.

On net operating profits more than 150 per cent greater at $5,720,893 as compared with $2,236,706, net earnings for 1947, after adding other income and deducting interest on funded debt—latter item amounting to $373,159—are shown at $5,567,708 as compared with $2,450,178 and were equal to $7.73 a share on combined preferred and common stocks as against $3.40 a share in 1946.

Net operating profits were after all charges and appropriations except interest on funded debt and deductions included depreciation up at $3,573,526 from $1,860,624; income taxes up at $4,881,214 from $1,425,001 and pension fund contribution up at $800,000 from $300,000.

It is pointed out in report that, while net profits in 1947 were $3,117,530 higher than those for 1946, these represented less than half the sum expended last year by the company in plant extensions.

The figures are as follows: Net profit — 1947 — $5,567,708; amount added to fixed assets in 1947 — $12,979,401. Net profits in 1946 were $2,450,178, but it is pointed out that the costs of the strike in that year had a very adverse effect upon earnings. In 1945, the first year of reconversion after World War II, profits totalled $4,159,259.

Balance sheet shows net working capital up widely during year under review at $35,404,158 from $22,631,057 with current assets higher by over $17,750,000 at $47,849,765 and current liabilities up about $5 million at $12,445,607. This is a reflection of issuance during year of debentures to amount of $20 million as also is increase in Dominion government bond holdings to $16,773,601 from $7,961,979. Receivables are shown up at $12,421,298 from $7,078,838 at end of 1946 and inventories up at $14,835,878 from $11,525,373.

Plant account, reflecting large scale additions during year, is up at $41,022,655 from $30,990,510.

### Occidental Life

LIVING up to its record as one of the fastest growing companies in the business, the Occidental Life Insurance Company of California, with Canadian head office at London, Ont., increased its life insurance in force at the end of 1947 to $1,577,498,876, compared with $1,218,904,680 at the end of the previous year. New ordinary life insurance sold in 1947 amounted to $248,888,062, compared with $212,472,136, while its new group life insurance totalled $105,568,123, compared with $54,186,025 in 1946. Its accident and sickness premium income in 1947 was $7,453,080, showing an increase of 52.9 per cent over 1946. Its total assets at the end of 1947 were $185,131,712, compared with $160,603,190 at the end of the previous year. Its capital and surplus at the end of 1947 amounted to $13,196,903, compared with $12,388,908 at the end of 1946. Total payments to policyholders and beneficiaries in 1947 were $17,588,164, compared with $14,310,960 in the previous year. Payments to policyholders and beneficiaries since organization now total $151,466,238.

## THEATRE

(*Continued from Page* 32)

out (a) to have been the daughter's beau ideal in high school, and (b) to be engaged to another girl and hence useless for the mother's plans. In a well-managed scene this sympathetic extrovert gives the introvert daughter some excellent advice, and we are left to conjecture whether it did her any good or not. Meg Wyllie plays the daughter with as much clarity as the author makes possible, but we are still obscure as to the reasons for her addiction to playing her father's phonograph records.

Any psychiatrist would have a marvellous time with all three members of the family, and indeed an audience of psychiatrists would have a marvellous time with the whole play, except that every member of it would probably object to the unlicensed practice of psychiatry by the "gentleman caller." As psychiatry is the major interest of the moment, this doubtless accounts for the success of the play, which pays about as much attention to the once accepted canons of the dramatic art as Premier Gottwald does to those of democracy. Even with the assistance of the narrator, playwright Tennessee Williams's "comedy drama" is very slow getting under way, and it never finishes at all, it just stops. Thanks to some brilliant performing, parts of it are extremely interesting.


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